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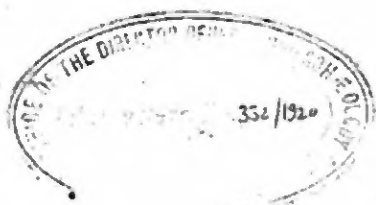
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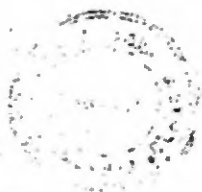
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HOMER THE ODYSSEY II





HOMER

THE ODYSSEY

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY

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HOMER'S ODYSSEY

ΟΔΥΣΣΕΙΑ

N

ὣς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ.
κηληθμῷ δ' ἔσχοντο κατὰ μέγαρα σκιδόεντα.
τὸν δ' αὖτ' Ἀλκίνοος ἀπαμείβετο φώνησέν τε

“ὦ Ὀδυσσεῦ, ἐπεὶ ἴκεν ἐμὸν ποτὶ χαλκοβατὲς δῶ,
ἰψερεφές, τῷ σ' οὐ τι παλιμπλαγχθέντα γ' οἶω
ἀψ' ἀπονοστήσειν, εἰ καὶ μάλα πολλὰ πέπονθας.
ὑμέων δ' ἀνδρὶ ἐκάστῳ ἐφέμενος τάδε εἶρω,
ὅσσοι ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γερούσιον αἶθοπα οἶνον
αἰεὶ πίνετ' ἐμοῖσιν, ἀκουάζεσθε δ' ὕοιδου.

εἶματα μὲν δὴ ξείνῳ εὐξέστη ἐνὶ χηλῷ
κεῖται καὶ χρυσὸς πολυδαίδαλος ἅλλα τε πάντα
δῶρ', ὅσα Φαιήκων βουληφόροι ἐνθάδ' ἔνεικαν·
ἄλλ' ἄγε οἱ δῶμεν τρίποδα μέγαν ἠδὲ λέβητα
ἀνδρακάς· ἡμεῖς δ' αὖτε ἀγειρόμενοι κατὰ δῆμον
τισόμεθ' ἀργαλείῳ γὰρ ἔνα προικὸς χαρίσασθαι.”

ὣς ἔφατ' Ἀλκίνοος, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος.
οἱ μὲν κακκείοντες ἔβαν οἰκόνδε ἕκαστος,
ἦμος δ' ἠρυγένηα φύγῃ ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,
νῆϊάδ' ἐπεσσεύοντο, φέρου δ' εὐήνορα χαλκόν.
καὶ τὰ μὲν εὖ κατέθηχ' ἱερὸν μένος Ἀλκινόοιο,

THE ODYSSEY

BOOK XIII

So he spoke, and they were all hushed in silence, and were spellbound throughout the shadowy halls. And Alcinous again answered him, and said:

"Odysseus, since thou hast come to my high-roofed house with floor of brass, thou shalt not, methinks, be driven back, and return with baffled purpose, even though thou hast suffered much. And to each man of you that in my halls are ever wont to drink the flaming wine of the elders, and to listen to the minstrel, I speak, and give this charge. Raiment for the stranger lies already stored in the polished chest, with gold curiously wrought and all the other gifts which the counsellors of the Phaeacians brought hither. But, come now, let us give him a great tripod and a cauldron, each man of us, and we in turn will gather the cost from among the people, and repay ourselves. It were hard for one man to give freely, without requital."

So spake Alcinous, and his word was pleasing to them. They then went, each man to his house, to take their rest; but as soon as early Dawn appeared, the rosy-fingered, they hastened to the ship and brought the bronze, that gives strength to men. And the strong and mighty Alcinous went himself

αὐτὸς ἰὼν διὰ νηὸς ὑπὸ ζυγά, μή τιν' ἑταίρων
βλάβτοι ἐλαινόωντων, ὅποτε σπερχοίατ' ἑρετμοῖς.
οἱ δ' εἰς Ἀλκινόοιο κίον καὶ δαῖτ' ἀλέγυτον.

Τοῖσι δὲ βσὺν ἱέρευσ' ἱερὸν μένος Ἀλκινόοιο
Ζηνὶ κελαυνεφεί Κρονίδῃ, δὲ πᾶσιν ἀνάσσει. 25
μῆρα δὲ κήαντες δαίνυντ' ἐρικυδέα δαῖτα
τερπόμενοι· μετὰ δέ σφιν ἐμέλπετο θεῖος ἀοιδός,
Δημόδοκος, λαοῖσι τετιμένος. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
πολλὰ πρὸς ἥελιον κεφαλὴν τρέπε παμφανόωντα,
δύναι ἐπειγόμενος· δὴ γάρ μενέαινε νέεσθαι. 30
ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀνὴρ δόρποιο λιλαίεται, ᾧ τε πυνήμαρ
νεῖον ἀν' ἑλκῆτον βόε οἶνοπε πηκτὸν ἄροτρον
ἀσπασίως δ' ἄρα τῷ κατέδου φάος ἡελίοιο
δόρπον ἐποιχεσθαι, βλάβεται δέ τε γούνατ' ἰόντι·
ὥς Ὀδυσῆ' ἀσπαστὸν ἔδν φάος ἡελίοιο. 35
αἶψα δὲ Φαιήκεσσι φίληρέτμοισι μετηύδα,
Ἀλκινόῳ δὲ μάλιστα πιφασκόμενος φάτο μῦθον·

“ Ἀλκίνοε κρεῖον, πάντων ἀριδεῖκετε λαῶν,
πέμπετέ με σπείσαντες ἀπήμονα, χαίρετε δ' αὐτοί·
ἤδη γὰρ τετέλεσται ἅ μοι φίλος ἤθελε θυμός,
πομπὴ καὶ φίλα δῶρα, τὰ μοι θεοὶ Οὐρανίωνες
δλβια ποιήσειαν ἀμύμονα δ' οἶκοι ἄκοιτιν
νοστήσας εὖροιμε σὶν ἄρτεμέεσσι φίλοισιν.
ὑμεῖς δ' αὖθι μένοντες εὐφραίνοιτε γυναῖκας
κουριδίας καὶ τέκνα· θεοὶ δ' ἀρετὴν ὀπάσειαν 45
παντοίην, καὶ μὴ τι κακὸν μεταδήμιον εἶη.”

throughout the ship, and carefully stowed the gifts beneath the benches, that they might not hinder any of the crew at their rowing, when they busily plied the oars. Then they went to the house of Alcinous, and prepared a feast.

And for them the strong and mighty Alcinous sacrificed a bull to Zeus, son of Cronos, god of the dark clouds, who is lord of all. Then, when they had burned the thigh-pieces, they feasted a glorious feast, and made merry, and among them the divine minstrel Demodorus, held in honour by the people, sang to the lyre. But Odysseus would ever turn his head toward the blazing sun, eager to see it set, for verily he was eager to return home. And as a man longs for supper, for whom all day long a yoke of wine-dark oxen has drawn the jointed plough through fallow land, and gladly for him does the light of the sun sink, that he may busy him with his supper, and his knees grow weary as he goes; even so gladly for Odysseus did the light of the sun sink. Straightway then he spoke among the Phæacians, lovers of the oar, and to Alcinous above all he declared his word, and said:

"Lord Alcinous, renowned above all men, pour libations now, and send ye me on my way in peace; and yourselves too—Farewell! For now all that my heart desired has been brought to pass: a convoy, and gifts of friendship. May the gods of heaven bless them to me, and on my return may I find in my home my peerless wife with those I love unscathed; and may you again, remaining here, make glad your wedded wives and children; and may the gods grant you prosperity of every sort, and may no evil come upon your people."

Ἦς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπήνεον ἠδ' ἐκέλευον
πεμπέμεναι τὸν ξεῖνον, ἐπεὶ κατὰ μοῖραν εἶπεν.
καὶ τότε κήρυκα πρᾶσέφῃ μένος Ἀλκινόοιο·

"Ποντόνοε, κρητῆρα κερασσάμενος μέθυ νείμον 60
πᾶσιν ἀνὰ μέγαρον, ὅφρ' εὐξάμενοι Διὶ πατρὶ
τὸν ξεῖνον πέμπωμεν ἔην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν."

Ἦς φάτο, Ποντόνοος δὲ μελίφρονα οἶνον ἐκίρνα,
νώμησεν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν ἐπισταδόν· οἳ δὲ θεοῖσιν
ἔσπρισαν μακάρεσσι, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν, 65
αὐτόθεν ἐξ ἰδρῶν. ἀνὰ δ' ἴστατο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.
Ἀρήτη δ' ἐν χειρὶ τίθει δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον,
καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

"Χαῖρέ μοι, ὦ βασιλεια, διαμπερές, εἰς δ' κε γῆρας
ἔλθῃ καὶ θάνατος, τὰ τ' ἐπ' ἀνθρώποισι πέλονται 60
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ νέομαι· σὺ δὲ τέρπεο τῷδ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
παισὶ τε καὶ λαοῖσι καὶ Ἀλκινόῳ βασιλῆϊ."

Ἦς εἰπὼν ὑπὲρ οὐδὲν ἐβήσετο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
τῷ δ' ἅμα κήρυκα προῖσι μένος Ἀλκινόοιο,
ἡγεῖσθαι ἐπὶ νῆα βοῆν καὶ θίνα θαλάσσης· 65
Ἀρήτη δ' ἄρα οἳ δμῶας ἅμ' ἔπεμπε γυναῖκας,
τὴν μὲν φᾶρος ἔχουσιν εὐπλυνῆς ἠδὲ χιτῶνα,
τὴν δ' ἐτέρην χηλὸν πυκινὴν ἅμ' ὄπασσε κομίζειν·
ἣ δ' ἄλλη σίτον τ' ἔφερεν καὶ οἶνον ἱρυθρόν.

Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἐπὶ νῆα κατήλυθον ἠδὲ θάλασσαν, 70
αἶψα τὰ γ' ἐν νηὶ γλαφυρῇ πομπῆς ἀγαυοὶ
δεξάμενοι κατέθεντο, πόσιν καὶ βρώσιν ἄπασαν·
καὶ δ' ἄρ' Ὀδυσσῆϊ στόρεσαν ῥῆγός τε λίνον τε
νηὸς ἐπ' ἱερὸφιν γλαφυρῆς, ἵνα νήγρετον εὖδοι,
πρύμνης· ἂν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐβήσετο καὶ κατέλεκτο 75

So he spoke, and they all praised his words, and bade send the stranger on his way, since he had spoken fittingly. Then the mighty Alcinous spoke to the herald, saying: "Pontoonous, mix the bowl, and serve out wine to all in the hall, in order that, when we have made prayer to father Zeus, we may send forth the stranger to his own native land."

So he spoke, and Pontoonous mixed the honey-hearted wine and served out to all, coming up to each in turn; and they poured libations to the blessed gods, who hold broad heaven, from where they eat. But goodly Odysseus arose, and placed in the hand of Arete the two-handled cup, and spoke, and addressed her with winged words:

"Fare thee well, O queen, throughout all the years, till old age and death come, which are the lot of mortals. As for me, I go my way, but do thou in this house have joy of thy children and thy people and Alcinous the king."

So the goodly Odysseus spake and passed over the threshold. And with him the mighty Alcinous sent forth a herald to lead him to the swift ship and the shore of the sea. And Arete sent with him slave women, one bearing a newly washed cloak and a tunic, and another again she bade follow to bear the strong chest, and yet another bore bread and red wipe.

But when they had come down to the ship, and to the sea, straightway the lordly youths that were his escort took these things, and stowed them in the hollow ship, even all the food and drink. Then for Odysseus they spread a rug and a linen sheet on the deck of the hollow ship at the stern, that he might sleep soundly; and he too went aboard,

σιγῇ· τοὶ δὲ καθίζον ἐπὶ κληῖσιν ἕκαστοι
 κόσμῳ, πείσμα δ' ἔλυσαν ἀπὸ τριητοῖο λίθοιο.
 εὖθ' οἱ ἀνακλιθέντες ἀνερρίπτουν ἅλα πηδῶ,
 καὶ τῷ νήδυμος ὕπνος ἐπὶ βλεφάροισιν ἐπιπτε, 10
 νήγρετος, ἥδιστος, θανάτῳ ἀγχιιστα ἰοικώς.
 ἢ δ', ὥς τ' ἐν πεδίῳ τετράοροι ἄρσενες ἵπποι,
 πάντες ἅμ' ὀρμηθέντες ὑπὸ πληγῇσιν ἰμάσθλης,
 ὑψόσ' ἀειρόμενοι ῥίμφα πρήσσουσι κέλευθον,
 ὥς ἄρα τῆς πρύμνῃ μὲν αἰέρετο, κύμα δ' ὀπισθε
 πορφύρεον μέγα θύε πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης. 20
 ἢ δὲ μάλ' ἀσφαλῆως θέεν ἔμπεδον· οὐδέ κεν ἱρηξ
 κίρκος ὀμαρτήσειεν, ἐλαφρότατος πετεηνῶν.
 ὥς ἡ ῥίμφα θέουσα θαλάσσης κύματ' ἔταμνεν,
 ἀνδρα φέρουσα θεοῖς ἐναλίγκια μῆδ' ἔχοντα·
 ὅς πρην μὲν μάλα πολλὰ πάθ' ἄλγεια δν κατὰ θυμὸν 30
 ἀνδρῶν τε πτολέμους ἀλεγεινά τε κύματα πείρων,
 δὴ τότε γ' ἀτρέμας εὖδε, λελασμένος ὅς σ' ἐπεπόνθει.
 Εὖτ' ἀστήρ ὑπερέσχε φαάντατος, ὅς τε μάλιστα
 ἔρχεται ἀγγέλλων φάος Ἡοῦς ἠριγενείης,
 τῆμος δὴ νήσῳ προσεπίλνατο πονταπόρος νηῦς. 40
 Φόρκυνος δὲ τίς ἐστι λιμὴν, ἀλίοιο γέροντος,
 ἐν δὴμῳ Ἰθάκης· δύο δὲ προβλήτες ἐν αὐτῷ
 ἀκταὶ ἀπορρώγες, λιμένος ποτιπεπτηνῖαι,
 αἷ τ' ἀνέμων σκεπώσσι δυσαιῶν μέγα κύμα
 ἔκτοθεν· ἔντοσθεν δὲ τ' ἄνευ δεσμοῖο μένουσι 100
 νῆες ἑὺσσελμοι, ὅτ' ἂν ὄρμου μέτρον ἴκωνται.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὶ κρατὸς λιμένος τανύφυλλος ἐλαίη,
 ἀγχόθι δ' αὐτῆς ἄντρον ἐπήροτον ἡεροειδές,
 ἱρὸν νυμφῶν αἰ νηϊάδες καλέονται.

and laid him down in silence. Then they sat down on the benches, each in order, and loosed the hawser from the pierced stone. And as soon as they leaned back, and tossed the brine with their oar-blades, sweet sleep fell upon his eyelids, an unawakening sleep, most sweet, and most like to death. And as on a plain four yoked stallions spring forward all together beneath the strokes of the lash, and leaping on high swiftly accomplish their way, even so the stern of that ship leapt on high, and in her wake the dark wave of the loud-sounding sea foamed mightily, and she sped safely and surely on her way; not even the circling hawk, the swiftest of winged things, could have kept pace with her. Thus she sped on swiftly and clove the waves of the sea, bearing a man the peer of the gods in counsel, one who in time past had suffered many griefs at heart in passing through wars of men and the grievous waves; but now he slept in peace, forgetful of all that he had suffered.

Now when that brightest of stars rose which ever comes to herald the light of early Dawn, even then the seafaring ship drew near to the island.

There is in the land of Ithaca a certain harbour of Phorcys, the old man of the sea, and at its mouth two projecting headlands sheer to seaward, but sloping down on the side toward the harbour. These keep back the great waves raised by heavy winds without, but within the benched ships lie unmoored when they have reached the point of anchorage. At the head of the harbour is a long-leaved olive tree, and near it a pleasant, shadowy cave sacred to the nymphs that are called Naiads. Therein are mixing

ἐν δὲ κρητῆρές τε καὶ ἀμφιφορῆες ἔασιν 105
 λαίνοι· ἔνθα δ' ἔπειτα τιθαιβώσσουσι μέλισσαι.
 ἐν δ' ἴστοι λίθιοι περιμήκεες, ἔνθα τε νύμφαι
 φάρε' ὑφαίνουσιν ἀλιπόρφυρα, θαῦμα ἰδέσθαι·
 ἐν δ' ὕδατ' ἀετάρωντα. δύνω δέ τέ οἱ θύραι εἰσίν,
 αἱ μὲν πρὸς Βορέαο καταβῆαται ἀνθρώποισιν, 110
 αἱ δ' αὖ πρὸς Νότον εἰσὶ θεώτεραι· οὐδέ τι κείνη
 ἄνδρες ἐσέρχονται, ἀλλ' ἀθανάτων ὁδὸς ἐστίν.
 "Εὐθ' οἳ γ' εἰσέλασαν, πρὶν εἰδότες· ἡ μὲν ἔπειτα
 ἠπειρῶ ἐπέκελσεν, ὅσον τ' ἐπὶ ἡμῖν πάσης,
 σπερχομένη· τοῖον γὰρ ἐπείγεται χέρσ' ἐρετῶν· 115
 οἱ δ' ἐκ νηὸς βῆαυτες ἐϋζύγου ἠπειρόνδε
 πρῶτον Ὀδυσσῆα γλαφυρῆς ἐκ νηὸς αἶραν
 αὐτῷ σύν τε λίνῳ καὶ ῥήγῃ σιγαλόεντι,
 καδ' δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ ψαμάθῳ ἔθεσαν δεδμημένον ὕπνῳ,
 ἐκ δὲ κτήματ' αἶραν, ἃ οἱ Φαίηκες ἀγαυοὶ 120
 ὤπασαν οἴκαδ' ἰόντι διὰ μεγάλθυμον Ἀθήνην.
 καὶ τὰ μὲν οὖν παρὰ πυθμὲν ἑλαίης ἀθρόα θῆκαν
 ἐκτὸς ὁδοῦ, μὴ πᾶς τις ὀδιτῶν ἀνθρώπων,
 πρὶν γ' Ὀδυσῆ' ἔγρεσθαι, ἐπελθὼν δηλήσαιτο·
 αὐτοὶ δ' αὐτ' οἰκόνδε πάλιν κίον. οὐδ' ἐνοσίχθων 125
 λήθετ' ἀπειλάων, τὰς ἀντιθέῳ Ὀδυσῆϊ
 πρῶτον ἐπηπείλησε, Διὸς δ' ἐξείρετο βουλὴν·
 "Ζεῦ πάτερ, οὐκ ἐγὼ γε μετ' ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσι
 τιμῆεις ἔσομαι, ὅτε με βροτοὶ οὐ τι τίουσιν,
 Φαίηκες, τοὶ κέρτοιο ἐμῆς ἑξ εἰσι γενέθλης. 130
 καὶ γὰρ νῦν Ὀδυσῆ' ἐφάμην κακὰ πολλὰ παθόντα
 οἴκαδ' ἐλεύσεσθαι· νόστον δέ οἱ οὐ ποτ' ἀπηύρων
 πᾶγχυ, ἐπεὶ σὺ πρῶτον ὑπέσχεο καὶ κατένευσας.

bowls and jars of stone, and there too the bees store honey. And in the cave are long looms of stone, at which the nymphs weave webs of purple dye, a wonder to behold; and therein are also ever-flowing springs. Two doors there are to the cave, one toward the North Wind, by which men go down, but that toward the South Wind is sacred, nor do men enter thereby; it is the way of the immortals.

Here they rowed in, knowing the place of old; and the ship ran full half her length on the shore in her swift course, at such pace was she driven by the arms of the rowers. Then they stepped forth from the benched ship upon the land, and first they lifted Odysseus out of the hollow ship, with the linen sheet and bright rug as they were, and laid him down on the sand, still overpowered by sleep. And they lifted out the goods which the lordly Phæacians had given him, as he set out for home, through the favour of great-hearted Athene. These they set all together by the trunk of the olive tree, out of the path, lest haply some wayfarer, before Odysseus awoke, might come upon them and spoil them. Then they themselves returned home again. But the Shaker of the Earth did not forget the threats wherewith at the first he had threatened godlike Odysseus, and he thus enquired of the purpose of Zeus:

"Father Zeus, no longer shall I, even I, be held in honour among the immortal gods, seeing that mortals honour me not a whit—even the Phæacians, who, thou knowest, are of my own lineage. For I but now declared that Odysseus should suffer many woes ere he reached his home, though I did not wholly rob him of his return when once thou hadst promised it and confirmed it with thy nod; yet in

οἱ δ' εὖδοντ' ἐν νηὶ θεῶν ἐπὶ πόντον ἄγοντες
 κῆρθεσαν εἰν Ἰθάκῃ, ἔδωσαν δέ οἱ ἄσπετα¹ δῶρα, 135
 χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τε ἄλλας ἐσθῆτά θ' ὑφαντήν,
 πόλλ', ὅσ' ἂν οὐδέ ποτε Τροίης ἐξήρατ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
 εἰ περ ἀπήμων ἦλθε, λαχὼν ἀπὸ ληΐδος αἴσαν."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·
 "ὦ πόποι, ἐννοσίγαι' εὐρυσθενὲς, οἷον ξείπες. 140
 οὐ τί σ' ἀτιμάζουσι θεοί· χαλεπὸν δέ κεν εἴη
 πρεσβύτατον καὶ ἄριστον ἀτιμήσῃν ἰάλλειν.
 ἀνδρῶν δ' εἰ πέρ τις σε βίῃ καὶ κίρτει εἰκὼν
 οὐ τι τίει, σοὶ δ' ἐστὶ καὶ ἐξοπίσω τίσις αἰεὶ.
 ἔρξον ὅπως ἐθέλεις καὶ τοι φίλον ἔπλετο θυμῷ." 145

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Ποσειδάων ἐνοσίχθων·
 "Αἰψά κ' ἐγὼν ἔρξαιμι, κελαινεφές, ὥς ἀγορεύεις·
 ἀλλὰ σὸν αἰεὶ θυμὸν ὀπίζομαι ἥδ' ἄλειψω.
 νῦν αὖ Φαιήκων ἐθέλω περικαλλέα νῆα,
 ἐκ πομπῆς ἀνιοῦσαν, ἐν ἡεροειδέϊ πόντῳ 150
 ῥαῖσαι, ἵν' ἤδη σχῶνται, ἀπολλήξωσι δὲ πομπῆς
 ἀνθρώπων, μέγα δέ σφιν ὄρος πόλει ἀμφικαλύψαι."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·
 "ὦ πέπον, ὥς μὲν ἐμῷ θυμῷ δοκεῖ εἶναι ἄριστα,
 ὅππότε κεν δὴ πάντες ἐλαυνομένην προΐδωνται 155
 λαοὶ ἀπὸ πτόλιος, θεῖναι λίθον ἐγγύθι γαίης
 νηὶ θεῶν ἱκελόν, ἵνα θαυμάζωσιν ἅπαντες
 ἄνθρωποι, μέγα δέ σφιν ὄρος πόλει ἀμφικαλύψαι."

Λύτ' ἂρ ἐπεὶ τό γ' ἤκουσε Ποσειδάων ἐνοσίχθων,
 βῆ ῥ' ἴμεν εἰς Σχερίην, ὅθι Φαίηκες γεγάασιν. 160
 ἐνθ' ἴμεν· ἡ δὲ μάλα σχεδὸν ἦλυθε ποντοπόρος νηὺς

¹ ἄσπετα: ἀγλαὰ.

his sleep these men have borne him in a swift ship over the sea and set him down in Ithaca, and have given him gifts past telling, stores of bronze and gold and woven raiment, more than Odysseus would ever have won for himself from Troy, if he had returned unscathed with his due share of the spoil."

Then Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, answered him, and said: "Ah me, thou shaker of the earth, wide of away, what a thing hast thou said! The gods do thee no dishonour; hard indeed would it be to assail with dishonour our eldest and best. But 'as for men, if any one, yielding to his might and strength, fails to do thee honour in aught, thou mayest ever take vengeance, even thereafter. Do as thou wilt, and as is thy good pleasure."

Then Poseidon, the earth-shaker, answered him: "Straightway should I have done as thou sayest, thou god of the dark clouds, but I ever dread and avoid thy wrath. But now I am minded to smite the fair ship of the Phaeacians, as she comes back from his convoy on the misty deep, that hereafter they may desist and cease from giving convoy to men, and to fling a great mountain about their city."

Then Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, answered him and said: "Friend, hear what seems best in my sight. When all the people are looking forth from the city upon her as she speeds on her way, then do thou turn her to stone hard by the land—a stone in the shape of a swift ship, that all men may marvel; and do thou fling a great mountain about their city."

Now when Poseidon, the earth-shaker, heard this he went his way to Scheria, where the Phaeacians dwell, and there he waited. And she drew close to shore, the seafaring ship, speeding swiftly on her

ρίμφα διωκομένη· τῆς δὲ σχεδὸν ἦλθ' ἐνοσίχθων,
ὃς μιν λᾶαν ἔθηκε καὶ ἐρρίξωσεν ἐνερθε
χειρὶ καταπρηγεῖ ἑλάσας· ὁ δὲ νόσφι βεβήκει.

Οἱ δὲ πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἔπεα πτερόεντ' ἀγόρευον 165
Φαίηκες δολεχήμετοι, ναυσίκλυτοι ἄνδρες.
ὦδε δὲ τις εἶπεςκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον

“ὦ μοι, τίς δὴ νῆα βοὴν ἐπέδησ' ἐνὶ πόντρῳ
οἰκαδ' ἐλαυνομένην; καὶ δὴ προὔφαίνετο πᾶσα.”

“Ὡς ἄρα τις εἶπεςκε· τὰ δ' οὐχ ἴσαν ὥς ἐτέτυκτο. 170
τοῖσιν δ' Ἀλκίνοος ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·

“ὦ πόποι, ἦ μάλα δὴ με παλαίφατα θέσφαθ' ἱκάνει
πατρὸς ἐμοῦ, ὃς ἔφασκε Ποσειδάων' ἀγάσασθαι
ἡμῖν, οὐνεκα πομπὰ ἀπήμονές εἰμεν ἀπάντων.
φῆ ποτὲ Φαιήκων ἀνδρῶν περικαλλέα νῆα, 175
ἐκ πομπῆς ἀνιοῦσαν, ἐν ἡροειδέϊ πόντρῳ
ῥαισέμεναι, μέγα δ' ἡμῖν ὄρας πόλει ἀμφικαλύψειν.
ὥς ἀγόρευ' ὁ γέρων· τὰ δὲ δὴ νῦν πάντα τελεῖται.
ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', ὥς ἂν ἐγὼ εἶπω, πειθώμεθα πάντες·
πομπῆς μὲν παύσασθε βροτῶν, ὅτε κέν τις ἴκηται 180
ἡμέτερον προτὶ ἄστυ· Ποσειδάωνι δὲ ταύρους
δώδεκα κεκριμένους ἱερεῦσομεν, αἱ κ' ἐλεήσῃ,
μηδ' ἡμῖν περίμηκες ὄρος πόλει ἀμφικαλύψῃ.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἔδεισαν, ἐτοιμάσσαντο δὲ ταύρους.
ὥς οἱ μὲν ῥ' εὐχοντο Ποσειδάωνι ἀνακτι 185
δήμου Φαιήκων ἡγήτορες ἠδὲ μέδοντες,
ἑσταότες περὶ βωμόν· ὁ δ' ἔγρευτο δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς
εὐδων ἐν γαίῃ πατρώῃ, οὐδέ μιν ἔγνω.
ἦδη δὴν ὑπείων· περὶ γὰρ θεὸς ἡέρα χεῦε

way. "Then near her came the Earth-shaker and turned her to stone, and rooted her fast beneath by a blow of the flat of his hand, and then he was gone.

But they spoke winged words to one another, the Phaeacians of the long oars, men famed for their ships. And thus would one speak, with a glance at his neighbour:

"Ah me, who has now bound our swift ship on the sea as she sped homeward? Lo, she was in plain sight."

So would one of them speak, but they knew not how these things were to be. Then Alcinous addressed their company and said:

"Lo now, verily the oracles of my father, uttered long ago, have come upon me. He was wont to say that Poseidon was wroth with us because we give safe convoy to all men. He said that some day, as a beautiful ship of the Phaeacians was returning from a convoy over the misty deep, Poseidon would smite her, and would fling a great mountain about our town. So that old man spoke, and lo, now all this is being brought to pass. But now come, as I bid let us all obey. Cease ye to give convoy to mortals, when anyone comes to our city, and let us sacrifice to Poseidon twelve choice bulls, if haply he may take pity, and not fling a lofty mountain about our town."

So he spoke, and they were seized with fear and made ready the bulls. Thus they were praying to the lord Poseidon, the leaders and counsellors of the land of the Phaeacians, as they stood about the altar, but Odysseus awoke out of his sleep in his native land. Yet he knew it not after his long absence, for about him the goddess had shed a mist, even

Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη, κούρη Διὸς, ὅφρα μιν αὐτὸν
 ἄγνωστον τεύξειεν ἑκαστὰ τε μυθήσαιο,
 μή μιν πρὶν ἄλοχος γνοίη ἄστοι τε φίλοι τε,
 πρὶν πᾶσαν μνηστῆρας ὑπερβασίην ἀποτίσαι.
 τοῦνεκ' ἄρ' ἄλλοειδέα φαίνεται πάντα ἀνακτι,
 ἄτραπιτοὶ τε διηγεκῆες λιμένες τε κύνορμοι
 πέτραι τ' ἠλίβατοι καὶ δένδρεα τηλεθώντα.
 στῆ δ' ἄρ' ἀναίξας καὶ ῥ' εἰσίδε πατρίδα γαίαν
 ὤμωξεν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα καὶ ὦ πεπλήγητο μηρῶ
 χερσὶ καταπρηνίσσ', ὀλοφυρόμενος δ' ἔπος ηὔδα·

"ὦ μοι ἐγὼ, τέων αὐτε βροτῶν ἐς γαίαν ἰκάνω;
 ἢ ῥ' οἳ γ' ὑβρίζονται τε καὶ ἄγριον οὐδὲ δίκαιοι,
 ἦε φιλόξεinoι, καὶ σφιν νόος ἐστὶ θεουδής;
 πῇ δὴ χρήματα πολλὰ φέρω τάδε; πῇ τε καὶ αὐτὸς
 πλαῖζομαι; αἴθ' ὄφελον μέναι παρὰ Φαιήκεσσιν
 αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ δὲ κεν ἄλλον ὑπερμενέων βασιλῆων
 ἐξικόμην, ὅς κέν μ' ἐφίλει καὶ ἔπεμπε ρίεσθαι.
 νῦν δ' οὐτ' ἄρ' πῇ θέσθαι ἐπίσταμαι, οὐδὲ μὲν αὐτοῦ
 καλλείψω, μὴ πῶς μοι ἔλωρ ἄλλοισι γένηται.
 ὦ πόποι, οὐκ ἄρα πάντα νοήμονες οὐδὲ δίκαιοι
 ἦσαν Φαιήκων ἡγήτορες ἠδὲ μέδοντες,
 οἳ μ' εἰς ἄλλην γαίαν ἀπήγαγον, ἢ τὲ μ' ἔφαντο
 ἄξειν εἰς Ἰθάκην εὐδείελον, οὐδ' ἐτέλεσαν.
 Ζεὺς σφέας τίσαιο ἱκετήσιος, ὅς τε καὶ ἄλλους
 ἀνθρώπους ἐφορᾷ καὶ τίνυται ὅς τις ὑμάρτη.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ τὰ χρήματ' ἀριθμήσω καὶ ἰδῶμαι,
 μή τί μοι οἰχωνται κοίλης ἐπὶ νηὸς ἄγοντες."

"Ὡς εἰπὼν τριπόδας περικαλλέας ἠδὲ λέβητας
 ἡρίθμει καὶ χρυσὸν ὑφαντὰ τε εἴματα καλά.

Pallas Athene, daughter of Zeus, that she might render him unknown, and tell him all things, so that his wife might not know him, nor his townsfolk, nor his friends, until the wooers had paid the full price of all their transgressions. Therefore all things seemed strange to their lord, the long paths, the bays offering safe anchorage, the sheer cliffs, and the luxuriant trees. So he sprang up and stood and looked upon his native land, and then he groaned and smote both of his thighs with the flat of his hands, and mournfully spoke, and said:

"Woe is me, to the land of what mortals am I now come? Are they cruel, and wild, and unjust? or do they love strangers and fear the gods in their thoughts? Whither shall I bear all this wealth, or whither shall I myself go wandering on? Would that I had remained there among the Phaeacians, and had then come to some other of the mighty kings, who would have entertained me and sent me on my homeward way. But now I know not where to bestow this wealth; yet here will I not leave it, lest haply it become the spoil of others to my cost. Out upon them; not wholly wise, it seems, nor just were the leaders and counsellors of the Phaeacians who have brought me to a strange land. Verily they said that they would bring me to eicar-seen Ithaca, but they have not made good their word. May Zeus, the suppliant's god, requite them, who watches over all men, and punishes him that sins. But come, I will number the goods, and go over them, lest to my cost these men have carried off aught with them in the hollow ship."

So he spake, and set him to count the beautiful tripods, and the cauldrons, and the gold, and the

τῶν μὲν ἄρ' οὐ τι πόθει· ὁ δ' ὀδύρετο πατρίδα γαῖαν
 ἐρπύζων παρὰ θίνα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης, 220
 πόλλ' ὀλοφυρόμενος· σχεδόνθεν δέ οἱ ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη,
 ἀνδρὶ δέμας εἰκνία νέφ', ἐπιβώτορι μῆλων,
 παναπάμφ, οἷοί τε ἀνδκτων παῖδες ἔασι,
 διπτυχον ἄμφ' ὤμοισιν ἔχουσ' εὐεργέα λῶπην·
 ποσσὶ δ' ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσι πέδιλ' ἔχε, χερσὶ δ' ἄκοντα. 225
 τὴν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς γήθησεν ἰδὼν καὶ ἐναντίος ἦλθε,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“ὦ φίλ', ἐπεὶ σε πρῶτα κιχάνω τῷδ' ἐνὶ χώρῳ,
 χαῖρέ τε καὶ μὴ μοί τι κακῷ νόφ' ἀντιβολήσῃς,
 ἀλλὰ σάω μὲν ταῦτα, σάω δ' ἐμέ· σοὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ γε 230
 εὐχομαι ὥς τε θεῶ καὶ σευ φίλα γούναθ' ἱκάνω.
 καὶ μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐὺ εἰδῶ·
 τίς γῆ, τίς δῆμος, τίνας ἀνέρες ἐγγεγμάσιν;
 ἢ πού τις νήσων εὐδείελος, ἢέ τις ἄκτῃ
 κεῖθ' ἢλὶ κεκλιμένη ἐριβώλακος ἠπείροιο;” 235

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 “Νῆπιός εἰς, ὦ ξεῖν', ἢ τηλόθεν εἰλήλουθας,
 εἰ δὴ τῆνδε τε γαῖαν ἀνείρσαι· οὐδέ τι λίην
 οὕτω νῶνυμός ἐστιν· ἴσασι δέ μιν μάλα πολλοί, 240
 ἡμὲν ὅσοι ναίουσι πρὸς ἡῶ τ' ἡέλιόν τε,
 ἡδ' ὅσοι μετόπισθε ποτὶ ζόφον ἠερόεντα.
 ἢ τοι μὲν τρηχεῖα καὶ οὐχ ἱππῆλατὸς ἐστιν,
 οὐδὲ λίην λυπρὴ, ἀτὰρ οὐδ' εὐρεῖα τέτυκται.
 ἐν μὲν γάρ οἱ σῖτος ἀθίσφατος, ἐν δέ τε οἶνος
 γίγνεται· αἰεὶ δ' ὄμβρος ἔχει τεθαλυῖά τ' ἐέρση· 245
 αἰγίβοτος δ' ἀγαθὴ καὶ βούβοτος· ἴσθι μὲν ὅλη
 παντοίῃ, ἐν δ' ὕρδοι ἐπηετανοὶ παρίασι.
 τῷ τοι, ξεῖν', Ἰθάκης γε καὶ ἐς Τροίην ὄνομ' ἔκει,
 τὴν περ τηλοῦ φασὶν Ἀχαιῆδος ἐμμεναι αἴης.”

fair woven raiment, and of these he missed nothing. Then, mournfully longing for his native land, he paced by the shore of the loud-sounding sea, uttering many a moan. And Athene drew near him in the form of a young man, a herdsman of sheep, one most delicate, as are the sons of princes. In a double fold about her shoulders she wore a well-wrought cloak, and beneath her shining feet she had sandals, and in her hands a spear. Then Odysseus was glad at sight of her, and came to meet her, and he spoke, and addressed her with winged words :

"Friend, since thou art the first to whom I have come in this land, hail to thee, and mayst thou meet me with no evil mind. Nay, save this treasure, and save me; for to thee do I pray, as to a god, and am come to thy dear knees. And tell me this also truly, that I may know full well. What land, what people is this? What men dwell here? Is it some clear-seen island, or a shore of the deep-soiled mainland that lies resting on the sea?"

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him: "A fool art thou, stranger, or art come from far, if indeed thou askest of this land. Surely it is no wise so nameless, but full many know it, both all those who dwell toward the dawn and the sun, and all those that are behind toward the murky darkness. It is a rugged isle, not fit for driving horses, yet it is not utterly poor, though it be but narrow. Therein grows corn beyond measure, and the wine-grape as well, and the rain never fails it, nor the rich dew. It is a good land for pasturing goats and kine; there are trees of every sort, and in it also pools for watering that fail not the year through. Therefore, stranger, the name of Ithaca has reached even to the land of Troy, which, they say, is far from this land of Achaia."

ὣς φάτο, γήθησεν δὲ πολύτλος δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς, 250]
 χαίρων ἢ γαίῃ πατρώῃ, ὥς οἱ ἔειπε
 Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη, κούρη Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο·
 καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
 οὐδ' ὃ γ' ἀληθεία εἶπε, πάλιν δ' ὃ γε λάξετο μῦθον,
 αἰεὶ ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νόον πολυκερδέα νωμῶν 255

Ἦνυσθάνομην Ἰθάκης γε καὶ ἐν Κρήτῃ εὐρείῃ,
 τηλοῦ ὑπὲρ πόντου· νῦν δ' εἰλήλουθα καὶ αὐτὸς
 χρήμασι σὺν τοῖσδεσσι· λιπὼν δ' ἔτι παισὶ τοσαῦτα
 φεύγω, ἐπεὶ φίλον υἷα κατέκτανον Ἴδομενῆος,
 Ὀρσίλοχον πόδας ὠκύν, ὃς ἐν Κρήτῃ εὐρείῃ 260
 ἀνέρας ἀλφηστὰς νίκα ταχέειοσι πόδεσσιν,
 οὐνεκά με στερέσαι τῆς ληΐδος ἤθελε πάσης
 Τρωϊάδος, τῆς εἶνεκ' ἐγὼ πάθον ἀλγεα θυμῷ,
 ἀνδρῶν τε πτολίμους ἀλεγαινά τε κύματα πείρων,
 οὐνεκ' ἄρ' οὐχ ᾧ πατρὶ χαριζόμενος θερίπενον 265
 δῆμψ' ἐνὶ Τρώων, ἀλλ' ἄλλων ἥρχον ἑταίρων.
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ κατιόντα βάλλον χαλκῇρὶ δουρὶ
 αἰγρόθεν, ἐγγὺς ὁδοῖο λοχησάμενος σὺν ἑταίρῳ·
 νύξ δὲ μάλα δνοφερὴ κάτεχ' οὐρανόν, οὐδέ τις ἡμέας
 ἀνθρώπων ἐνόησε, λάθον δὲ ἰ θυμὸν ἀπούρος, 270
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ τὸν γε κατέκτανον ὀξείῃ χαλκῷ,
 αὐτίκ' ἐγὼν ἐπὶ νῆα κίων Φοῖνικας ἀγαυοὺς
 ἑλυσσάμην, καὶ σφιν μενοεικέα ληΐδα δῶκα·
 τοὺς μ' ἐκέλευσα Πύλῳνδε κατυστήσασθαι καὶ ἐφέσσαι
 ἢ εἰς Ἥλιδα διὰν, ὅθι κρατέουσιν Ἑπειοί, 275
 ἀλλ' ἢ τοι σφῆλας κείθεν ἀπίσαστο ἰς ἀνέμοιο
 πόλλ' ἡεκαζομένους, οὐδ' ἤθελον ἔξαπατηῆσαι.
 κείθεν δὲ πλαγχθέντες ἰκάνομεν ἐνθάδε νυκτός.

So she spake, and the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus was glad, and rejoiced in his land, the land of his fathers, as he heard the word of Pallas Athene, daughter of Zeus, who bears the aegis; and he spoke, and addressed her with winged words; yet he spoke not the truth, but checked the word ere it was uttered, ever revolving in his breast thoughts of great cunning:

"I heard of Ithaca, even in broad Crete, far over the sea; and now have I myself come hither with these my goods. And I left as much more with my children, when I fled the land, after I had slain the dear son of Idomeneus, Orilochus, swift of foot, who in broad Crete surpassed in fleetness all men that live by toil. Now he would have robbed me of all that booty of Troy, for which I had borne grief of heart, passing through wars of men and the grievous waves, for that I would not shew favour to his father, and serve as his squire in the land of the Trojans, but commanded other men of my own. So I smote him with my bronze-tipped spear as he came home from the field, lying in wait for him with one of my men by the roadside. A dark night covered the heavens, and no man was ware of us, but unseen I took away his life. Now when I had slain him with the sharp bronze, I went straightway to a ship, and made prayer to the lordly Phoenicians, giving them booty to satisfy their hearts. I bade them take me aboard and land me at Pylos, or at goodly Elis, where the Epeans hold sway. Yet verily the force of the wind thrust them away from thence, sore against their will, nor did they purpose to play me false; but driven wandering from thence we came hither by night. With eager

σπουδῇ δ' ἐς λιμένα προερίσσαμεν, οὐδέ τις ἡμῖν
 δόρπου μνήστις ἔην, μάλα περ χατέουσιν ἐλίσθαι, 280
 ἀλλ' αὐτως ἀποβάντες ἐκείμεθα νηὸς ἅπαντες.
 ἐνθ' ἐμὲ μὲν γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἐπήλυθε κεκμηῶτα,
 οἱ δὲ χρήματ' ἐμὰ γλαφυρῆς ἐκ νηὸς ἐλόντες
 κάτθεσαν, ἐνθα περ αὐτὸς ἐπὶ ψαμάθοισιν ἐκείμην.
 οἱ δ' ἐς Σιδονίην εὐ ναιομένην ἀναβάντες 285
 ὄχοντ'· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ λιπόμην ἀκαχήμενος ἦτορ."

Ὡς φάτο, μείδησεν δὲ θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
 χειρὶ τέ μιν κατέρεξε· δέμας δ' ἤϊκτο γυναικί
 καλῇ τε μεγάλῃ τε καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα ἰδυίῃ·
 καί μιν φωνήσας' ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα· 290

"Κερδαλὸς κ' εἴη καὶ ἐπὶ κλοπος ὅς σε παρέλθοι
 ἐν πάντεσσι δόλοισι, καὶ εἰ θεὸς ἀντιάσει.
 σχίτλιε, ποικιλομήτα, δόλων ἄτ', οὐκ ἄρ' ἔμελλες,
 οὐδ' ἐν σῇ περ ἰὼν γαίῃ, λήξειν ἀπατάων
 μύθων τε κλοπίων, οἳ τοι πεδόθεν φίλοι εἰσίν. 295
 ἀλλ' ἄγε, μηκέτι ταῦτα λεγόμεθα, εἰδότες ἀμφῶ
 κέρδε', ἐπεὶ σὺ μὲν ἴσσι βροτῶν δ' ἄριστος ἀπάντων
 βουλῇ καὶ μύθοισιν, ἐγὼ δ' ἐν πᾶσι θεοῖσι
 μήτι τε κλέομαι καὶ κέρδεσιν· οὐδὲ σύ γ' ἔγνως
 Παλλὰδ' Ἀθηναίην, κούρην Διός, ἣ τέ τοι αἰεὶ 300
 ἐν πάντεσσι πόνοισι παρίσταμαι ἡδὲ φυλάσσω,
 καὶ δέ σε Φαιήκεσσι φίλον πάντεσσιν ἔθηκα.
 νῦν αὖ δεῦρ' ἰκόμεν, ἵνα τοι σὺν μῆτιν ὑφῆνω
 χρημάτων τε κρύψω, ὅσα τοι Φαίηκες ἀγανοὶ
 ὥπασαν οἵκαδ' ἰόντι ἐμῇ βουλῇ τε νόφ' τε, 305
 εἴπω θ' ὅσσα τοι αἶσα δόμοις ἐνὶ ποιητοῖσι
 κήδε' ἀνασχέσθαι· σὺ δὲ τετλάμεναι καὶ ἀνάγκη,

haste we rowed on into the harbour, nor had we any thought of supper, sore as was our need of it, but even as we were we went forth from the ship and lay down, one and all. Then upon me came sweet sleep in my weariness, but they took my goods out of the hollow ship and set them where I myself lay on the sands. And they went on board, and departed for the well-peopled land of Sidon; but I was left here, my heart sore troubled."

So he spoke, and the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, smiled, and stroked him with her hand, and changed herself to the form of a woman, comely and tall, and skilled in glorious handiwork. And she spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Cunning must he be and knavish, who would go beyond thee in all manner of guile, aye, though it were a god that met thee. Bold man, crafty in counsel, insatiate in deceit, not even in thine own land, it seems, wast thou to cease from guile and deceitful tales, which thou lovest from the bottom of thine heart. But come, let us no longer talk of this, being both well versed in craft, since thou art far the best of all men in counsel and in speech, and I among all the gods am famed for wisdom and craft. Yet thou didst not know Pallas Athene, daughter of Zeus, even me, who ever stand by thy side, and guard thee in all toils. Aye, and I made thee beloved by all the Phaeacians. And now am I come hither to weave a plan with thee, and to hide all the treasure, which the lordly Phaeacians gave thee by my counsel and will, when thou didst set out for home; and to tell thee all the measure of woe it is thy fate to fulfil in thy well-built house. But do thou be strong, for bear it thou must, and

μηδέ τω ἐκφάσθαι μήτ' ἀνδρῶν μήτε γυναικῶν,
πάντων, οὔνεκ' ἄρ' ἤλθες ἀλώμενος, ἀλλὰ σιωπῇ
πάσχειν ἄλγεα πολλὰ, βίας ὑποδέγμενος ἀνδρῶν." 310

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
" Ἀργαλέον σε, θεά, γινῶναι βροτῷ ἀντιάσαντι,
καὶ μάλ' ἐπισταμένῳ· σέ γάρ αὐτὴν παντὶ ἔλσκεις.
τοῦτο δ' ἐγὼν εὖ οἶδ', ὅτι μοι πάρος ἠκίη ἦσθα,
ἦος ἐνὶ Τροίῃ πολεμίζομεν υἷες Ἀχαιῶν. 315

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ Πριάμοιο πόλιν διεπέρσαμεν αἰπήν,
βῆμεν δ' ἐν νήεσσι, θεὸς δ' ἐκέδασσεν Ἀχαιοὺς,
οὐ σέ γ' ἔπειτα ἴδον, κούρη Διός, οὐδ' ἐνόησα
νηὸς ἐμῆς ἐπιβᾶσαν, ὅπως τί μοι ἄλγος ἀλάλκοις.
ἀλλ' αἰεὶ φρεσὶν ᾗσιν ἔχων δεδαιγμένον ἦτορ 320
ἠλώμην, ἦός με θεοὶ κακότητος ἔλυσαν·
πρὶν γ' ὅτε Φαιήκων ἀνδρῶν ἐν πλοῖσι δῆμῳ
θάρσυνάς τε ἐπεσσι καὶ ἐς πόλιν ἤγαγες αὐτή.¹

νῦν δέ σε πρὸς πατρός γουνάζομαι—οὐ γὰρ ὁἶω
ἦκειν εἰς Ἰθάκην εὐδείελου, ἀλλὰ τιν' ἄλλην 325
γαῖαν ἀναστρέφομαι· σέ δέ κερτομέουσιν ὁἶω
ταῦτ' ἀγορευέμεναι, ἵν' ἐμὰς φρένας ἠπεροπεύσῃς—
εἰπέ μοι εἰ ἐτεόν γε φίλιν ἐς πατρίδ' ἰκάνω."

Τὸν δ' ἡμέλβει· ἔπειτα θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
" Αἰεὶ τοι τοιοῦτον ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νῆμα· 330

τῷ σε καὶ οὐ δύναμαι προλιπεῖν δύστηνον ἔοντα,
οὔνεκ' ἐπητὴς ἔσσι καὶ ἀγχίνοος καὶ ἐχέφρων.
ἀσπασίως γάρ κ' ἄλλος ἀνὴρ ἀλαλήμενος ἐλθὼν
ἴετ' ἐνὶ μεγάροις ἰδέειν παῖδάς τ' ἄλοχόν τε·

¹ Lines 320-3 were rejected by Aristarchus.

tell no man of them all nor any woman that thou hast come back from thy wanderings, but in silence endure thy many griefs, and submit to the violence of men."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Hard is it, goddess, for a mortal man to know thee when he meets thee, how wise soever he be, for thou takest what shape thou wilt. But this I know well, that of old thou wast kindly toward me, so long as we sons of the Achæans were warring in the land of Troy. But after we had sacked the lofty city of Priam, and had gone away in our ships, and a god had scattered the Achæans, never since then have I seen thee, daughter of Zeus, nor marked thee coming on board my ship, that thou mightest ward off sorrow from me. Nay, I ever wandered on, bearing in my breast a stricken heart, till the gods delivered me from evil, even until in the rich land of the Phæacians thou didst cheer me with thy words, and thyself lead me to their city. But now I beseech thee by thy father—for I think not that I am come to clear-seen Ithaca; nay, it is some other land over which I roam, and thou, methinks, dost speak thus in mockery to beguile my mind—tell me whether in very truth I am come to my dear native land."

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him: "Ever such is the thought in thy breast, and therefore it is that I cannot leave thee in thy sorrow, for thou art soft of speech, keen of wit, and prudent. Eagerly would another man on his return from wanderings have hastened to behold in his halls his children and his wife; but thou art not

σοὶ δ' οὐ πῶ φίλον ἐστὶ δαήμεναι οὐδὲ πυθέσθαι, 335
 πρὶν γ' ἔτι σῆς ἀλόχου πειρήσῃαι, ἣ τέ τοι αὐτως
 ἦσται ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν, οἷζυραὶ δέ οἱ αἰεὶ
 φθίνουσιν νύκτες τε καὶ ἡμέατα δάκρυ χεοῦσῃ.¹
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τὸ μὲν οὐ ποτ' ἀπίστεον, ἀλλ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ
 ἦδε', ὃ νοστήσεις ὀλέσας ἀπο πάντας ἐταίρους· 340
 ἀλλὰ τοι οὐκ ἐθέλησα Ποσειδάωνι μάχεσθαι
 πατροκασσιγνήτῳ, ὃς τοι κότον ἐνθετο θυμῷ,
 χῳόμενος ὅτι οἱ νῆδν φίλον ἐξαλάωσας.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε τοι δείξω Ἰθάκης ἔδος, ὅφρα πεποίθῃς.
 Φόρκυνος μὲν δδ' ἐστὶ λιμὴν, ἀλίοιο γέροντος, 345
 ἦδε δ' ἐπὶ κρατὸς λιμένος τανύφυλλος ἐλαίη·
 ἀγχόθι δ' αὐτῆς ἄντρον ἐπήρατον ἡεροειδές,
 ἱρὸν νυμφάων, αἱ νηιάδες καλέονται.²
 τοῦτο δέ τοι σπέος ἐστὶ³ κατηρεφές, ἐνθα σὺ πολλὰς
 ἔρδεσκες νύμφῃσι τεληέσσας ἐκατόμβας· 350
 τοῦτο δὲ Νήριτόν ἐστιν ὅρος καταειμένον ὕλην."
 "Ὡς εἰποῦσα θεὰ σκίδας' ἤέρα, εἷσατο δὲ χθών·
 γήθησέν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 χαίρων ἢ γαίῃ, κύσε δὲ ζεῖδωρον ἄρουραν.
 αὐτίκα δὲ νύμφῃς ἡρήσατο, χεῖρας ἀνασχών· 355
 "Νύμφαι νηιάδες, κούραι Διός, οὐ ποτ' ἐγὼ γε
 ὄψεσθ' ὑμῖν ἐφάμην· νῦν δ' εὐχολῆς ἀγανῆσι
 χαίρετ'· ἀτὰρ καὶ δῶρα διδώσομεν, ὥς τὸ πάρος περ,
 αἱ κεν ἐγὼ πρόφρων με Διὸς θυγάτηρ ἀγγελεῖν
 αὐτόν τε ζῶειν καὶ μοι φίλον νῆδν ἀέξῃ." 360
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·

¹ Lines 333-8 were rejected by Aristarchus.

² Lines 347-8 (= 103-4) are omitted in many MSS.

³ ἐστὶ : ἐδρῆ.

yet minded to know or learn of aught, till thou hast furthermore proved thy wife, who abides as of old in her halls, and ever sorrowfully for her the nights and days wane, as she weeps. But as for me, I never doubted of this, but in my heart knew it well, that thou wouldest come home after losing all thy comrades. Yet, thou must know, I was not minded to strive against Poseidon, my father's brother, who laid up wrath in his heart against thee, angered that thou didst blind his dear son. But come, I will shew thee the land of Ithaca, that thou mayest be sure. This is the harbour of Phorcys, the old man of the sea, and here at the head of the harbour is the long-leaved olive tree, and near it is the pleasant, shadowy cave, sacred to the nymphs that are called Naiads. This, thou must know, is the vaulted cave in which thou wast wont to offer to the nymphs many hecatombs that bring fulfilment; and yonder is Mount Neriton, clothed with its forests."

So spake the goddess, and scattered the mist, and the land appeared. Glad then was the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus, rejoicing in his own land, and he kissed the earth, the giver of grain. And straightway he prayed to the nymphs with upstretched hands:

"Ye Naiad Nymphs, daughters of Zeus, never did I think to behold you again, but now I hail you with loving prayers. Aye, and gifts too will I give, as aforetime, if the daughter of Zeus, she that drives the spoil, shall graciously grant me to live, and shall bring to manhood my dear son."

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered

“Θάρσει, μή τοι ταῦτα μετὰ φρεσὶ σῇσι μελόντων.
ἀλλὰ χρήματα μὲν μυχθῷ ἀντροῦ θεσπεσίῳ
βείομεν αὐτίκα νῦν, ἵνα περ τάδε τοι σόα μίμνη·
αὐτοὶ δὲ φραζώμεθ’ ὅπως ἔχ’ ἄριστα γένηται.” 365

Ἦς εἰπούσα θεὰ δῦνε σπείος ἡεροειδές,
μαιομένη κυνθῶνας ἀνὰ σπείος· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
ἄσσον πάντ’ ἐφόρει, χρυσὸν καὶ ἀτειρέα χαλκὸν
εἵματα τ’ εὐποίητα, τὰ οἱ Φαίηκες ἔδωκαν.
καὶ τὰ μὲν εὖ κατέθηκε, λίθον δ’ ἐπέθηκε θύρῃσι 370
Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίης, κούρῃ Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο.
τὼ δὲ καθεζομένῳ ἱερῆς παρὰ πυθμὲν ἑλπίης
φράζεσθην μνηστῆρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισιν ὄλεθρον.
τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἤρχε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·

“Διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν’ Ὀδυσσεῦ, 375
φράζεο ὅπως μνηστῆρσιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφήσεις,
οἳ δὴ τοι τρίετες μέγαρον κάτα κοιρανέουσι,
μνώμενοι ἀντιθέην ἄλοχον καὶ ἔδνα διδόντες·
ἢ δὲ σὸν αἰεὶ νόστον ὀδυρομένη κατὰ θυμὸν
πάντας μὲν ῥ’ ἔλπει καὶ ὑπίσχεται ἀνδρὶ ἑκάστω, 380
ἀγγελίας προΐειτα, νόος δέ οἱ ἄλλα μενοινᾷ.”

Τὴν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις
Ὀδυσσεύς·

“ὦ πόποι, ἦ μῦλα δὴ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο
φθίσεσθαι κακὸν οἶτον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἔμελλον,
εἰ μὴ μοι σὺ ἕκαστα, θεεῖ, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες. 385
ἀλλ’ ἄγε μῆτιν ὑφηνον, ὅπως ὑποτίσομαι αὐτούς·
πὰρ δέ μοι αὐτὴ στήθι, μένος πολυθαρσές ἐνείσα,
οἷον ὅτε Τροίης λύομεν λιπαρὰ κρήδεμνα.
αἰ κέ μοι ὧς μεμανία παρασταίης, γλαυκῶπι,

him again: "Be of good cheer, and let not these things distress thy heart. But let us now forthwith set thy goods in the innermost recess of the wondrous cave, where they may abide for thee in safety, and let us ourselves take thought how all may be far the best."

So saying, the goddess entered the shadowy cave and searched out its hiding-places. And Odysseus brought all the treasure thither, the gold and the stubborn bronze and the finely-wrought raiment, which the Phaeacians gave him. These things he carefully laid away, and Pallas Athene, daughter of Zeus, who bears the aegis, set a stone at the door. Then the two sat them down by the trunk of the sacred olive tree, and devised death for the insolent wooers. And the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, was the first to speak, saying:

"Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many devices, take thought how thou mayest put forth thy hands on the shameless wooers, who now for three years have been lording it in thy halls, wooing thy godlike wife, and offering wooers' gifts. And she, as she mournfully looks for thy coming, offers hopes to all, and has promises for each man, sending them messages, but her mind is set on other things."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Lo now, of a surety I was like to have perished in my halls by the evil fate of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, hadst not thou, goddess, duly told me all. But come, weave some plan by which I may requite them; and stand thyself by my side, and endue me with dauntless courage, even as when we loosed the bright diadem of Troy. Wouldest thou but stand by my side, thou flashing-eyed one, as eager as thou

καί κε τριηκοσίοισιν ἐγὼν ἄνδρεςσι μαχοίμην 390
 σὺν σοί, πότνα θεά, ὅτε μοι πρόφρασσ' ἐπαρήγοις."

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 "Καὶ λίην τοι ἐγὼ γε παρέσσομαι, οὐδέ με λήσεις,
 ὅπποτε κεν δὴ ταῦτα πενώμεθα· καί τιν' ὄλω
 αἵματί τ' ἐγκεφάλῳ τε παλαξέμεν ἄσπετον οὐδας 395
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων, οἳ τοι βίοντον κατέδουσιν.

ἄλλ' ἄγε σ' ἄγνωστον τεύξω πάντεσσι βροτοῖσι·
 κάρφω μὲν χρῶα καλὸν ἐνὶ γναμπτοῖσι μέλεσσι,
 ξανθὰς δ' ἐκ κεφαλῆς ὀλέσω τρίχας, ἀμφὶ δὲ λαῖφος
 ἔσσω ὃ κε στυγέησιν ἰδὼν ἄνθρωπον¹ ἔχοντα, 400
 κνυζώσω δὲ τοι ὅσσε πάρος περικαλλὲ ἔοντε,²

ὥς ἂν ἀεικέλιος πᾶσι μνηστήρσι φανήης
 σῇ τ' ἀλόχῳ καὶ παιδὶ, τὸν ἐν μεγύροισιν ἔλειπες.

αὐτὸς δὲ πρῶτιστα συβώτην εἰσαφικέσθαι,
 ὃς τοι ὦν ἐπίουρος, ὁμῶς δὲ τοι ἥπια οἶδε, 405

παιδὺ τε σὸν φιλέει καὶ ἐχέφρονα Πηνελόπειαν.
 δῆεις τὸν γε σύεσσι παρήμενον· αἱ δὲ νέμονται
 παρ Κόρακος πέτρῃ ἐπὶ τε κρήνῃ Ἀρεθούσῃ,
 ἔσθουσai βάλανον μενοεικέα καὶ μέλαν ὕδωρ
 πίνουσai, τὰ θ' ἕεσσι τρέφει τεθαλυῖαν ἀλοιφήν. 410

ἔνθα μένειν καὶ πάντα παρήμενος ἐξερέεσθαι,
 ὅφρ' ἂν ἐγὼν ἔλθω Σπάρτην ἐς καλλιγύναικα
 Τηλέμαχον καλέουσα, τεὸν φίλον υἱόν, Ὀδυσσεῦ·
 ὃς τοι ἐς εὐρύχορον Λακεδαιμόνα παρ Μενέλαον
 ὄχρετο πεισδόμενος μετὰ σὸν κλέος, εἴ που ἔτ' εἴης." 415

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις
 Ὀδυσσεύς·

"Τίπτε τ' ἄρ' οὐ οἱ εἶπες, ἐνὶ φρεσὶ πάντα ἰδυῖα;

¹ ἄνθρωπον; ἐνθρονοί.

² Lines 398-401 (= 430-3) were rejected by Aristarchus.

wast then, I would fight even against three hundred men, with thee, mighty goddess, if with a ready heart thou wouldest give me aid."

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him: "Yea verily, I will be with thee, and will not forget thee, when we are busied with this work; and methinks many a one of the wooers that devour thy substance shall bespatter the vast earth with his blood and brains. But come, I will make thee unknown to all mortals. I will shrivel the fair skin on thy supple limbs, and destroy the flaxen hair from off thy head, and clothe thee in a ragged garment, such that one would shudder to see a man clad therein. And I will dim thy two eyes that were before so beautiful, that thou mayest appear mean in the sight of all the wooers, and of thy wife, and of thy son, whom thou didst leave in thy halls. And for thyself, do thou go first of all to the swineherd who keeps thy swine, and withal has a kindly heart towards thee, and loves thy son and constant Penelope. Thou wilt find him abiding by the swine, and they are feeding by the rock of Corax and the spring Arethusa, eating acorns to their heart's content and drinking the black water, things which cause the rich flesh of swine to wax fat. There do thou stay, and sitting by his side question him of all things, while I go to Sparta, the land of fair women, to summon thence Telemachus, thy dear son, Odysseus, who went to spacious Lacedaemon to the house of Menelaus, to seek tidings of thee, if thou wast still anywhere alive."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her: "Why then, I pray thee, didst thou not tell him, thou whose mind knows all things? Nay, was it

ἢ ἵνα πον καὶ κεῖνος ἀλώμενος ἀλγέα πάσχη
πόντον ἐπ' ἀτρύγετον· βίοντον δέ οἱ ἄλλοι ἔδουσι;·"

Τὸν δ' ἡμίβητ' ἔπειτα θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη· 420
" Μὴ δὴ τοι κεῖνός γε λήην ἐνθύμιος ἔστω.

αὐτὴ μιν πόμπευον, ἵνα κλέος ἐσθλὸν ἄροιτο
κεῖσ' ἐλθὼν· ἀτὰρ οὐ τιν' ἔχει πόνον, ἀλλὰ ἐκηλος
ἦσται ἐν Ἀτρεΐδαο δόμοις, παρὰ δ' ἄσπετα κεῖται.
ἢ μὲν μιν λοχόωσι νέοι σὺν νηὶ μελαίνῃ, 425
ἰέμενοι κτεῖναι, πρὶν πατρίδα γαῖαν ἰκέσθαι·
ἀλλὰ τά γ' οὐκ οἶω, πρὶν καὶ τινα γαῖα καθέξει
ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων, οἳ τοι βίοντον κατέδουσιν."

ὣς ἄρα μιν φασμένη ῥάβδῳ ἐπεμάσσατ' Ἀθήνη.
κάρψεν μὲν χροῖα καλὸν ἐνὶ γναμπτοῖσι μέλεσσι, 430
ξανθὰς δ' ἐκ κεφαλῆς ὄλεσε τρίχας, ἀμφὶ δὲ δέρμα
πάντεσσιν μέλεσσι παλαιοῦ θῆκε γέροντος.
κνύζωσεν δέ οἱ ὅσσε πάρος περικαλλέ' ἔοντε·
ἀμφὶ δέ μιν ῥάκος ἄλλο κακὸν βάλεν ἠδὲ χιτῶνα,
ῥωγαλῆα ῥυπόωντα, κακῷ μεμορυγμένα καπνῷ· 435
ἀμφὶ δέ μιν μέγα δέρμα ταχείης ἔσσ' ἐλάφοιο,
ψιλόν· δῶκε δέ οἱ σκῆπτρον καὶ αἰεκέα πῆρην,
πυκινὰ ῥωγαλέην· ἐν δὲ στρόφος ἦεν ὑορτήρ.

Τῷ γ' ὡς βουλευσάντε δῖέτμαγεν· ἢ μὲν ἔπειτα
εἰς Λακεδαίμονα διὰν ἔβη μετὰ παῖδ' Ὀδυσῆος. 440

haply that he too might suffer woes, wandering over the unresting sea, and that others might devour his substance?"

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him: "Nay verily, not for him be thy heart overmuch troubled. It was I that guided him, that he might win good report by going thither, and he has no toll, but sits in peace in the palace of the son of Atreus, and good cheer past telling is before him. Truly young men in a black ship lie in wait for him, eager to slay him before he comes to his native land, but methinks this shall not be. Ere that shall the earth cover many a one of the wooers that devour thy substance."

So saying, Athene touched him with her wand. She withered the fair skin on his supple limbs, and destroyed the flaxen hair from off his head, and about all his limbs she put the skin of an aged old man. And she dimmed his two eyes that were before so beautiful, and clothed him in other raiment, a vile ragged cloak and a tunic, tattered garments and foul, begrimed with filthy smoke. And about him she cast the great skin of a swift hind, stripped of the hair, and she gave him a staff, and a miserable wallet, full of holes, slung by a twisted cord.

So when the two had thus taken counsel together, they parted; and thereupon the goddess went to goodly Lareilaeon to fetch the son of Odysseus.

Αὐτὰρ ὁ ἐκ λιμένος προσέβη τρηχεῖαν ἀταρπὸν
 χώρον ἄν' ὕληντα δι' ἄκριας, ἧ οἱ Ἀθήνη
 πέφραδε δῖον ὑφορβόν, ὃ οἱ βιότοιο μάλιστα
 κήδετο οἰκῶν, οὗς κτήσατο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ἐνὶ προδόμῳ εὖρ' ἤμενον, ἐνθα οἱ αὐλὴ 5
 ὑψηλὴ δέδμητο, περισκέπτω ἐνὶ χώρῳ,
 καλὴ τε μεγάλη τε, περίδρομας· ἦν ῥα συβώτης
 αὐτὸς δαίμαθ' ὕεσσιν ἀποιοχόμενοιο ἀνακτος,
 νόσφιν δεσποίνης καὶ Λαέρταο γέροντος,
 ῥητοῖσιν λᾶεσσι καὶ ἐθρήγκωσεν ἀχέρδω. 10
 σταυροῖς δ' ἐκτὸς ἔλασσε διαμπερές ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα,
 πυκνοὺς καὶ θαμίας,¹ τὸ μέλαν δρυὸς ὑμφικεῖσσας·
 ἐντοσθεν δ' αὐλῆς συφεοὺς δυοκαίδεκα ποίει
 πλησίον ἀλλήλων, εὐνὰς συσίην ἐν δὲ ἐκάστῳ
 πεντήκοντα σῦες χαμαιευνίδες ἐρχατόωντο, 15
 θήλειαι τοκάδες· τοὶ δ' ἄρσενες ἐκτὸς ἱαυον,
 πολλὸν παυρότεροι· τοὺς γὰρ μινύθεσκον ἔδοντες
 ἀντίθεοι μνηστήρες, ἐπεὶ προβαλλε συβώτης
 αἰεὶ ζατρεφῶν σιάλων τὸν ἄριστον ἀπάντων·
 οἱ δὲ τρηκόσιοί τε καὶ ἐξήκοντα πέλοντο. 20
 παρ δὲ κύνες, θήρεσσιν ἰοικότες αἰὲν ἱαυον
 τέσσαρες, οὗς ἔθρεψε συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἰνδρῶν.

¹ θαμίας: μεγάλου.

BOOK XIV

BUT Odysseus went forth from the harbour by the rough path up over the woodland and through the heights to the place where Athene had shewed him that he should find the goodly swineherd, who cared for his substance above all the slaves that goodly Odysseus had gotten.

He found him sitting in the fore-hall of his house, where his court was built high in a place of wide outlook, a great and goodly court with an open space around it. This the swineherd had himself built for the swine of his master, that was gone, without the knowledge of his mistress and the old man Laertes. With huge stones had he built it, and set on it a coping of thorn. Without he had driven stakes the whole length, this way and that, huge stakes, set close together, which he had made by splitting an oak to the black core;¹ and within the court he had made twelve sties close by one another, as beds for the swine, and in each one were penned fifty wallowing swine, females for breeding; but the boars slept without. These were far fewer in numbers, for on them the godlike wooers feasted, and lessened them, for the swineherd ever sent in the best of all the fatted hogs, which numbered three hundred and sixty. By these ever slept four dogs, savage as wild beasts, which the swineherd had

¹ Others render, "splitting off the black bark."

αὐτὸς δ' ἄμφι πόδεσσιν ἑοῖς ἀράρισκε πέδιλα,
 τάμνων δέρμα βύσιον ἐϋχροές· οἱ δὲ δὴ ἄλλοι
 ῥῶχοντ' ἄλλυδις ἄλλος ἅμ' ἄγρομένοισι σύεσσιν, 25
 οἱ τρεῖς· τὸν δὲ τέταρτον ἀποπροέθηκε πόλινδε
 σὺν ἀγέμεν μνηστήρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισιν ἰνάγκη,
 δφρ' ἱερεύσαντες κρειῶν κορυσσάτο θυμόν.

Ἐξαπίνης δ' Ὀδυσῆα Ἴδον κύνες ὑλακόμωροι.
 οἱ μὲν κεκλήγοντες ἐπέδραμον· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς 30
 ἔξετο κερδοσύνη, σκῆπτρον δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρός.
 ἔνθα κεν ῥ' παρ σταθμῷ αἰκέλιον πάθεν ἄλγος·
 ἀλλὰ συβώτης ὥκα ποσὶ κραιπνοῖσι μετασπῶν
 ἔσσυτ' ἀνὰ πρόθυρον, σκύτος δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρός.
 τοὺς μὲν ὁμοκλήσας σεῦεν κύνας ἄλλυδις ἄλλον 35
 πυκνήσιν λιθάδεσσιν· ὁ δὲ προσέειπεν ἄνακτα·

“ὦ γέρον, ἧ ὀλέγου σε κύνες διεδηλήσαντο
 ἔξαπίνης, καὶ κέν μοι ἐλεγχεῖην κατέχευας.
 καὶ δέ μοι ἄλλα θεοὶ δόσαν ἄλγέα τε στοναχάς τε·
 ἀντιθέου γὰρ ἄνακτος ὀδυρόμενος καὶ ἀχεύων 40·
 ἡμῶι, ἄλλοισιν δὲ σύας σιῶλους ἀτιτάλλω
 ἔδμεναι· αὐτὰρ κείνος ἐελδόμενός που ἐδωδῆς
 πλάζετ' ἐπ' ἄλλοθρόων ἀνδρῶν δῆμόν τε πόλιν τε,
 εἴ που ἔτι ζῶει καὶ ὄρᾳ φῶος ἡελίοιο.
 ἀλλ' ἔπεο, κλισίηνδ' ἴομεν, γέρον, δφρα καὶ αὐτός, 45
 σίτου καὶ οἴνοιο κορυσσάμενος κατὰ θυμόν,
 εἵπης ὀππόθεν ἔσσι καὶ ὀππόσα κήδε' ἀνέτλης.”

Ὡς εἰπὼν κλισίηνδ' ἠγήσατο δῖος ὑφορβός,
 εἶσεν δ' εἰσαγαγών, ῥῶπας δ' ὑπέχευε δασείας,
 ἱστύρεσιν δ' ἐπὶ δέρμα ἰονθυδὺς ἀγρίου αἰγός, 50

reared, a leader of men. But he himself was fitting sandals about his feet, cutting an ox-hide of good colour, while the others had gone, three of them, one here one there, with the droves of swine; and the fourth he had sent to the city to drive perforce a boar to the insolent wooers, that they might slay it and satisfy their souls with meat.

Suddenly then the baying hounds caught sight of Odysseus, and rushed upon him with loud barking, but Odysseus sat down in his cunning, and the staff fell from his hand. Then even in his own farmstead would he have suffered cruel hurt, but the swineherd with swift steps followed after them, and hustened through the gateway, and the hide fell from his hand. He called aloud to the dogs, and drove them this way and that with a shower of stones, and spoke to his muster, and said:

"Old man, verily the dogs were like to have torn thee to pieces all of a sudden, and on me thou wouldest have shed reproach. Aye, and the gods have given me other griefs and sorrows. It is for a godlike muster that I mourn and grieve, as I abide here, and rear fat swine for other men to eat, while he haply in want of food wanders over the land and city of men of strange speech, if indeed he still lives and sees the light of the sun. But come with me, let us go to the hut, old man, that when thou hast satisfied thy heart with food and wine, thou too mayest tell whence thou art, and all the woes thou has endured."

So saying, the goodly swineherd led him to the hut, and brought him in, and made him sit, strowing beneath thick brushwood, and thereon spreading the skin of a shaggy wild goat, large and hairy, on which

αὐτοῦ ἐκύναιον, μέγα καὶ δασύ. χαῖρε δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ὅττι μιν ὧς ὑπέδεκτο, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·

“Ζεὺς τοι δοίη, ξεῖνε, καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι
 ὅττι μάλιστ' ἐθέλεις, ὅτι με πρόφρων ὑπέδεξο.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὖμαιε συβῶτα· 65

“Ξεῖν', οὐ μοι θέμις ἐστ', οὐδ' εἰ κακίων σέθεν ἔλθοι,

ξεῖνον ἀτιμῆσαι· πρὸς γὰρ Διὸς εἰσιν ἅπαντες

ξεῖνοί τε πτωχοί τε· δόσις δ' ὀλίγη τε φέλη τε

γίγνεται ἡμετέρῃ· ἡ γὰρ δμῶων δίκη ἐστίν

αἰεὶ δειδιότων, ὅτ' ἐπικρατέωσιν ἄνακτες 60

οἱ νέοι. ἡ γὰρ τοῦ γε θεοὶ κατὰ νόστον ἔδησαν,

ὅς κεν ἔμ' ἐνδυκέως ἐφίλει καὶ κτήσιν ὄπασσεν,

οἶκόν τε κληρὸν τε πολυμνήστην τε γυναῖκα, 64

οἶά τε ᾧ οἰκῇ ἄναξ εὖθυμος ἔδωκεν, 63

ὅς οἱ πολλὰ κάμῃσι, θεὸς δ' ἐπὶ ἔργον ἀέξῃ, 62

ὥς καὶ ἐμοὶ τόδε ἔργον ἀέξεται, ᾧ ἐπιμύμνω.

τῇ κέ με πόλλ' ὤνησεν ἄναξ, εἰ αὐτόθ' ἐγήρα·

ἀλλ' ὄλεθ'—ὥς ὥφελλ' Ἑλένης ἰπὸ φῦλον ὀλέσθαι

πρόχνη, ἐπεὶ πολλῶν ἀνδρῶν ὑπὸ γούνατ' ἔλυσσε·

καὶ γὰρ κείνοι ἔβη Ἀγαμέμνονος εἵνεκα τιμῆς 70

Ἴλιον εἰς εὐπωλον, ἵνα Ἵρῳεσσι μάχοιτο.”

ᾧς εἰπὼν ζῳστήρι θεῶς συνέεργε χιτῶνα,

βῆ δ' ἴμεν ἐς συφεοὺς, ὅθι ἴθνεα ἔρχατο χοίρων.

ἐνθεν ἔλῶν δὴ ἔναικε καὶ ἡμφοτέρους ἰέρευσεν,

εὐσέ τε μίστυλλέν τε καὶ ἡμφ' ὀβελοῖσιν ἐπειρεν. 75

ὀπτήσας δ' ἄρα πάντα φέρων παρέθηκε Ὀδυσῇ

he was himself went to sleep. And Odysseus was glad that he gave him such welcome, and spoke, and addressed him :

"Stranger, may Zeus and the other immortal gods grant thee what most thou desirest, since thou with a ready heart hast given me welcome."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say : "Nay, stranger, it were not right for me, even though one meaner than thou were to come, to slight a stranger : for from Zeus are all strangers and beggars, and a gift, though small, is welcome from such as we ; since this is the lot of slaves, ever in fear when over them as lords their masters hold sway—young masters such as ours. For verily the gods have stayed the return of him who would have loved me with all kindness, and would have given me possessions of my own, a house and a bit of land, and a wife, sought of many wooers, even such things as a kindly master gives to his thrall who has toiled much for him, and whose labour the god makes to prosper, even as this work of mine prospers, to which I give heed. Therefore would my master have richly rewarded me, if he had grown old here at home : but he perished—as I would all the kindred of Helen had perished in utter ruin, since she loosened the knees of many warriors. For he too went forth to win recompense for Agamemnon to Ilios, fained for its horses, that he might fight with the Trojans."

So saying, he quickly bound up his tunic with his belt, and went to the sties, where the tribes of swine were penned. Choosing two from thence, he brought them in and slew them both, and singed, and cut them up, and spitted them. Then, when he had roasted all, he brought and set it before Odysseus,

θέρμ' αὐτοῖς ὀβελοῖσιν· ὁ δ' ἄλφιστα λευκὰ πάλυεν·
 ἐν δ' ἄρα κισσυβίῳ κίρνη μελιηδέα οἶνον,
 αὐτὸς δ' ἀντίον ἔξεν, ἐποτρύνων δὲ προσήνδα·

“Ἔσθιε νῦν, ὦ ξεῖνε, τὰ τε δμῶεσσι πάρεστι, 80
 χοῖρε· ἀτὰρ σιάλους γε σύας μνηστῆρες ἔδανσιν,
 οὐκ ὀπιδα φρονέοντες ἐνὶ φρεσὶν οὐδ' ἐλεητύν.
 οὐ μὲν σχέτλια ἔργα θεοὶ μάκαρες φιλέουσιν,
 ἀλλὰ δίκην τίουσιν καὶ αἷσιμα ἔργ' ἀνθρώπων.
 καὶ μὲν δυσμενέες καὶ ἀνάρσιοι, οἳ τ' ἐπὶ γαίης 85
 ἰλλοτρίης βῶσιν καὶ σφι Ζεὺς ληΐδα δῶρ,
 πλησάμενοι δέ τε νῆας ἔβαν οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι,
 καὶ μὲν τοῖς ὀπίδος κρατερὸν δέος ἐν φρεσὶ πίπτει.
 οἷδε δὲ καὶ τι ἴσασι, θεοῦ δέ τιν' ἔκλιον αὐδὴν,
 κείνου λυγρὸν ὄλεθρον, ὅτ' οὐκ ἐθέλουσι δικαίως 90
 μᾶσθαι οὐδὲ νέεσθαι ἐπὶ σφέτερ', ἀλλὰ ἔκηλοι
 κτήματα δαρδᾶπτουσιν ὑπέρβιον, οὐδ' ἐπι φειδώ.
 ὅσσαι γὰρ νύκτες τε καὶ ἡμέραι ἐκ Διὸς εἰσιν,
 οὐ ποθ' ἐν ἱρέουσ' ἱερῆιον, οὐδὲ δῦ' οἶω·
 οἶνον δὲ φθινύθουσιν ὑπέρβιον ἐξαφύοντες. 95
 ἢ γάρ οἱ ζωὴ γ' ἦν ἄσπετος· οὐ τι νι τόσση
 ἀνδρῶν ἡρώων, οὔτ' ἠπείροιο μελαίνης
 οὔτ' αὐτῆς Ἰθάκης· οὐδὲ ξυνεείκοσι φωτῶν
 ἔστ' ἄφενος τοσσοῦτον· ἐγὼ δέ κέ τοι καταλέξω.
 δῶδεκ' ἐν ἠπείρῳ ἀγέλαι· τόσα πῶεα οἶῶν, 100
 τόσσα συνῶν συβόσια, τόσ' αἰπόλια πλατὲ αἰγῶν
 βόσκουσι ξεῖνοί τε καὶ αὐτοῦ βῶτορες ἄνδρες.
 εἰθάρδε δ' αἰπόλια πλατὲ αἰγῶν ἔνδεκα πάντα
 ἐσχατῇ βόσκοντ', ἐπὶ δ' ἄνερες ἐσθλοὶ δρῶνται.
 τῶν αἰεὶ σφω ἕκαστος ἐπ' ἡματι μῆλον ἀγινεῖ, 105

lent upon the 'spits, and sprinkled over it white barley meal. Then in a bowl of ivy wood he mixed honey-sweet wine, and himself sat down over against Odysseus, and bade him to his food, and said:

"Eat now, stranger, such food as slaves have to offer, meat of young pigs; the fatted hogs the wooers eat, who reck not in their hearts of the wrath of the gods, nor have any pity. Verily the blessed gods love not reckless deeds, but they honour justice and the righteous deeds of men. Even cruel foemen that set foot on the land of others, and Zeus gives them booty, and they fill their ships and depart for home—even on the hearts of these falls great fear of the wrath of the gods. But these men here, look you, know somewhat, and have heard some voice of a god regarding my master's pitiful death, seeing that they will not woo righteously, nor go back to their own, but at their ease they waste our substance in insolent wise, and there is no sparing. For every day and night that comes from Zeus they sacrifice not one victim nor two alone, and they draw forth wine, and waste it in insolent wise. Verily his substance was great past telling, so much has no lord either on the dark mainland or in Ithaca itself; nay, not twenty men together have wealth so great. Lo, I will tell thee the tale thereof; twelve herds of kine has he on the mainland; as many flocks of sheep; as many droves of swine; as many roving herds of goats do herdsmen, both foreigners and of his own people, pasture. And here too graze roving herds of goats on the borders of the island, eleven in all, and over them trusty men keep watch. And each man of these ever drives up day by day one of his flock for

ζατρεφέων αἰγῶν ὅς τις φαίνεται ἄριστος.
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ σὺς τάσδε φυλάσσω τε ρύομαί τε,
καὶ σφι συῶν τὸν ἄριστον ἐὺ κρίνας ἀποπέμπω.”

Ὡς φάθ', ὁ δ' ἐνδυκίως κρέα τ' ἤσθιε πίνε τε οἶνον
ὑρπαλέως ἀκέων, κακὰ δὲ μνηστῆρσι φύτευεν. 110

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δείπνησε καὶ ἤραρε θυμὸν ἐδώδῃ,
καὶ οἱ πλησάμενος δῶκε σκύφον, ᾧ περ ἔπινεν,
οἴνου ἐνίπλειον· ὁ δ' ἐδέξατο, χαῖρο δὲ θυμῷ,
καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

”ὦ φίλε, τίς γάρ σε πρίατο κτεύτεσσιν ἰοῖσιν, 115
ὥδε μάλ' ἀφνειὸς καὶ καρτερὸς ὥς ἀγορεύεις;

φῆς δ' αὐτὸν φθίσθαι Ἀγαμέμνονος εἵνεκα τιμῆς.
εἰπέ μοι, αἴ κέ ποθι γινώω τοιοῦτον ἔοντα.

Ζεὺς γάρ που τό γε οἶδε καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι,
εἴ κέ μιν ἀγγείλαιμι ἰδὼν· ἐπὶ πολλὰ δ' αἰλήθην.” 120

Τὸν δ' ἡμέλβετ' ἔπειτα συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν·

”ὦ γέρον, οὐ τις κεῖνον ἄνθρωπος ὑλαλῆμενος ἐλθὼν
ἀγγέλλων πείσειε γυναῖκά τε καὶ φίλον υἱόν,

ἀλλ' ἄλλως κομιδῆς κεχρημένοι ἄνδρες αἰλήται
ψεύδοντ', οὐδ' ἐθέλουσιν ἀληθεία μυθήσασθαι. 125

ὅς δέ κ' ἀλητεύων Ἰθάκης ἐς δῆμον ἵκηται,

ἐλθὼν ἐς δέσποιναν ἐμὴν ἀπατηλία βάζει·
ἢ δ' εὖ δεξαμένη φιλέει καὶ ἕκαστα μεταλλά.

καὶ οἱ ὀδυρομένη βλεφάρων ἀπο δάκρυα πίπτει,
ἢ θέμις ἐστὶ γυναικός, ἐπὴν πόσις ἄλλοθ' ὀληται. 130

αἰψά κε καὶ σύ, γεραιέ, ἔπος παρατεκτῆναιο.

εἰ τίς τοι χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἵματα δοίη.

the wooers, even that one of the fatted goats which seems to him the best. But as for me, I guard and keep these swine, and choose out with care and send them the best of the boars."

So he spoke, but Odysseus eagerly¹ ate flesh and drank wine, greedily, in silence, and was sowing the seeds of evil for the wooers. But when he had dined, and satisfied his soul with food, then the swineherd filled the bowl from which he was himself wont to drink, and gave it him brim full of wine, and he took it, and was glad at heart; and he spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Friend, who was it who bought thee with his wealth, a man so very rich and mighty, as thou tellest? Thou saidest that he died to win recompense for Agamemnon; tell me, if haply I may know him, being such an one. For Zeus, I ween, and the other immortal gods know whether I have seen him, and could bring tidings; for I have wandered far."

Then the swineherd, a leader of men, answered him: "Old man, no wanderer that came and brought tidings of him could persuade his wife and his dear son; nay, at random, when they have need of entertainment, do vagabonds lie, and are not minded to speak the truth. Whosoever in his wanderings comes to the land of Ithaca, goes to my mistress and tells a deceitful tale. And she, receiving him kindly, gives him entertainment, and questions him of all things, and the tears fall from her eyelids, while she weeps, as is the way of a woman, when her husband dies afar. And readily wouldest thou too, old man, fashion a story, if one would give thee a cloak and a

¹ *deinon*: appears everywhere else to bear the meaning, "with kindness." The etymology is uncertain.

τοῦ δ' ἤδη μέλλουσι κύνες ταχέες τ' οἴωνοι
 βρονὴν ἀπ' ὀστέφιν ἐρύσαι, ψυχὴ δὲ λέλοιπεν·
 ἢ τὸν γ' ἐν πόντῳ φάγον ἰχθύες, ὅστέα δ' αὐτοῦ 133
 κεῖται ἐπ' ἡπείρου ψαμάθῳ εἰλημένα πολλῇ.
 ὧς ὁ μὲν ξυθ' ἀπόλωλε, φίλοισι δὲ κήδε' ὀπίσσω
 παῶσιν, ἐμοὶ δὲ μάλιστα, τετεύχεται· οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἄλλον
 ἡπιον ὧδε ἄνακτα κειχήσομαι, ὅππός' ἐπέλθω,
 οὐδ' εἴ κεν πατρὸς καὶ μητέρος αἰτίς ἴκωμοι 140
 οἶκον, ὅθι πρῶτον γενόμεν καὶ μ' ἔτρεφον αὐτοί.
 οὐδέ νυ τῶν ἔτι τόσσον ὀδύρομαι, ἰέμενός περ
 ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἰδέσθαι ἐὼν ἐν πατρίδι γαίῃ·
 ἀλλὰ μ' Ὀδυσσεύς ποθὸς αἶνυται οἰχομένοιο.
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼν, ὦ ξεῖνε, καὶ οὐ παρεόντ' ὀνομάζειν 145
 αἰδέομαι· πέρι γάρ μ' ἐφίλει καὶ κήδετο θυμῷ·
 ἀλλὰ μιν ἠθέειον καλέω καὶ νόσφιν ἐόντα."

Ἦν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ φίλ', ἐπειδὴ πάμπαν ἀναίνεαι, οὐδ' ἔτι φῆσθα
 κεῖνον ἐλεύσεσθαι, θυμὸς δέ τοι αἰὲν ἄπιστος· 150
 ἄλλ' ἐγὼ οὐκ αὐτῶς μυθήσομαι, ἀλλὰ σὺν ὄρκῳ,
 ὡς νεῖται Ὀδυσσεύς· εὐαγγέλιον δέ μοι ἔστω
 αὐτίκ', ἐπεὶ κεν κεῖνος ἰὼν τὰ δ' εἰώμαθ' ἴκηται·
 ἔσσαι με χλαῖν' αἶν τε χιτῶνά τε, εἴματα καλά·¹
 πρὶν δέ κε, καὶ μάλα περ κεκρημένος, οὐ τι δεχοίμην. 155
 ἰχθρὸς γάρ μοι κεῖνος ὁμῶς Ἀἰδαο πύλῃσι
 γίγνεται, ὃς περὶ εἰκῶν ἀπατήλια βάζει.
 ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς πρῶτον θεῶν, ξενίῃ τε τράπεζα,
 ἴστίη τ' Ὀδυσσεύς ἀμύμανος, ἣν ἀφικάνω·
 ἢ μὲν τοι τάδε πάντα τελείεται ὥς ἀγορεύω. 160

¹ Line 154 is omitted in most MSS.

tunic for raiment. But as for him, ere now dogs and swift birds are like to have torn the flesh from his bones, and his spirit has left him; or in the sea fishes have eaten him, and his bones lie there on the shore, wrapped in deep sand. Thus has he perished yonder, and to his friends grief is appointed for days to come, to all, but most of all to me. For never again shall I find a master so kind, how far soever I go, not though I come again to the house of my father and mother, where at the first I was born, and they reared me themselves. Yet it is not for them that I henceforth mourn so much, eager though I am to behold them with my eyes and to be in my native land; nay, it is longing for Odysseus, who is gone, that seizes me. His name, stranger, absent though he is, I speak with awe, for greatly did he love me and care for me at heart; but I call him my lord beloved, for all he is not here."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Friend, since thou dost utterly make denial, and declarest that he will never come again, and thy heart is ever unbelieving, therefore will I tell thee, not at random but with an oath, that Odysseus shall return. And let me have a reward for bearing good tidings, as soon as he shall come, and reach his home; clothe me in a cloak and tunic, goodly raiment. But ere that, how sore soever my need, I will accept naught; for hateful in my eyes as the gates of Hades is that man, who, yielding to stress of poverty, tells a deceitful tale. Now be my witness Zeus, above all gods, and this hospitable board, and the hearth of noble Odysseus to which I am come, that verily all these things shall be brought to pass even as I tell thee. In

τοῦδ' αὐτοῦ λυκάβαντος ἐλεύσεται ἐνθάδ' Ὀδυσσεύς.
τοῦ μὲν φθίνοντος μηνός, τοῦ δ' ἵσταμένοιο,
οἴκαδε νοστήσει, καὶ τίσεται δὲ τις ἐκείνον
ἐνθάδ' ἀτιμάζει ἀλοχὸν καὶ φαίδιμον νῖόν.¹

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφησ', Εὐμαίε συβῶτα· 163
"ὦ γέρον, οὐτ' ἄρ' ἐγὼν εὐαγγέλιον τόδε τίσω,
οὐτ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐτι οἶκον ἐλεύσεται· ἀλλὰ ἔκηλος
πῖνε, καὶ ἄλλα παρέξ μεμνῶμεθα, μηδέ με τούτων
μύμνησκ'. ἡ γὰρ θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νῆμοισιν
ἄχνυται, ὅππότε τις μνήσῃ κεδνοῖο ἀνακτος. 170
ἀλλ' ἡ τοι ὄρκον μὲν εἴσομεν, αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
ἔλθοι ὅπως μιν ἔγω γ' ἐθέλω καὶ Πηνελόπεια
Λαέρτης θ' ὁ γέρων καὶ Τηλέμαχος θεοειδής.
νῦν αὖ παιδὸς ἀλαστον ὀδύρομαι, ὃν τέκ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
Τηλεμάχον· τὸν ἐπεὶ θρέψαν θεοὶ ἔρνεϊ ἴσον, 175
καὶ μιν ἔφην ἔσσεσθαι ἐν ἀνδράσιν οὐ τι χέρηα
πατὴρ ἐοῖο φίλοιο, δέμας κοῖ εἶδος ἀγήτων,
τὸν δὲ τις ἀθανάτων βλάβῃ φρένας ἐνδον εἴσας
ἤε τις ἀνθρώπων· ὁ δ' ἔβη μετὰ πατὴρ ἀκουήν
ἐς Ἥϊλον ἡγαθήν· τὸν δὲ μνηστῆρες ἀγαυοὶ 180
οἴκαδ' ἰόντα λοχῶσιν, ὅπως ἀπὸ φῦλον δληται
νώνυμον ἐξ Ἰθάκης Ἀρκευσίου ἀντιθέοιο.
ἀλλ' ἡ τοι κείνον μὲν εἴσομεν, ἡ κεν ἀλώῃ
ἡ κε φύγῃ καὶ κέν οἱ ὑπέρσχη χεῖρα Κρονίων.²
ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι σύ, γεραιέ, τὰ σ' αὐτοῦ κήδε' ἐνίσπες 185

¹ The whole passage 158-84 (158-82 = xix. 303-7) is treated in widely different ways by different critics. Aristarchus appears to have rejected 159 and 162-4, and in an important MS. (U. Allen, M. Laidlaw) lines 160-4 are marked with the asterisk. Lines 161-2 are out of harmony with the context here and seem clearly to have been brought in from the parallel passage in Book XIX; see Monroe.

² Lines 174-84 appear to have been rejected by Aristarchus. Eumaeus could know nothing of the embassy.

the course of this self-same day¹ Odysseus shall come hither, as the old moon wanes, and the new appears. He shall return, and take vengeance on all those who here dishonour his wife and his glorious son."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Old man, neither shall I, meseems, pay thee this reward for bearing good tidings, nor shall Odysseus ever come to his home. Nay, drink in peace, and let us turn our thoughts to other things, and do not thou recall this to my mind; for verily the heart in my breast is grieved whenever any one makes mention of my good master. But as for thy oath, we will let it be; yet I would that Odysseus might come, even as I desire, I, and Penelope, and the old man Laertes, and godlike Telemachus. But now it is for his son that I grieve unceasingly, even for Telemachus, whom Odysseus begot. When the gods had made him grow like a sapling, and I thought that he would be among men no whit worse than his dear father, glorious in form and comeliness, then some one of the immortals marred the wise spirit within him, or haply some man, and he went to sacred Pylos after tidings of his father. For him now the lordly wooers lie in wait on his homeward way, that the race of godlike Arceisius may perish out of Ithaca, and leave no name. But verily we will let him be; he may be taken, or he may escape, and the son of Cronos stretch forth his hand to guard him. But come, do thou, old man, tell me of thine own

¹ In rendering *Αυριόβαρος* by "day," instead of by "year," and in the interpretation of the whole passage, I have followed Monro.

καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐὺ εἰδῶ·
 τίς πόθεν εἰς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις ἡδὲ τοκῆς;
 ὅπποις τ' ἐπὶ νηὸς ἀφίκεο· πῶς δέ σε ναῦται
 ἤγαγον εἰς Ἰθάκην; τίνες ἔμμεναι εὐχετόωντο;
 οὐ μὲν γάρ τί σε πεζὸν ὁλομαι ἐνθάδ' ἰκέσθαι." 190

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι ταῦτα μάλ' ὑτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω.
 εἷη μὲν νῦν νῶϊν ἐπὶ χρόνον ἡμὲν ἐδώδῃ
 ἡδὲ μέθῃ γλυκερὸν κλισίῃς ἔντοσθεν ἐοῦσι,
 δαίνυσθαι ἀκέοντ', ἄλλοι δ' ἐπὶ ἔργον ἔποιεν· 195
 ῥηϊδίως κεν ἔπειτα καὶ εἰς ἐνιαυτὸν ἅπαντα
 οὐ τι διαπρήξαιμι λέγων ἐμὰ κήδεα θυμοῦ,
 δσσα γε δὴ ξύμπαντα θεῶν ἰότητι μόγησα.

"Ἐκ μὲν Κρητῶν γένος εὐχομαι εὐρείων,
 ἀνέρος ἀφνειοῦ παῖς· πολλοὶ δὲ καὶ ἄλλοι 200
 υἷες ἐν μεγάρῳ ἡμὲν τράφεν ἡδ' ἐγένοντο
 γνήσιοι ἐξ ἀλόχου· ἐμὲ δ' ὠνητὴ τέκε μήτηρ
 παλλακίς, ἀλλὰ με ἴσον ἰθαγενέεσσιν ἐτίμο
 Κίστωρ Ὑλακίδης, τοῦ ἐγὼ γένος εὐχομαι εἶναι
 ὥς τότε ἐνὶ Κρήτεσσι θεὸς ὥς τίετο δῆμῳ 205
 δλβω τε πλούτῳ τε καὶ υἷσι κυδαλίμοισιν.
 ἀλλ' ἢ τοι τὸν κῆρες ἔβαν θανάτιο φέρουσαι
 εἰς Ἀἶδαο δόμους· τοὶ δὲ ζῶν ἐδάσαντο
 παῖδες ὑπέρθυμοι καὶ ἐπὶ κλήρον ἐβάλλοντο,
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ μάλα παῦρα δόσαν καὶ οἰκί' ἔνειμαν. 210
 ἠγαγόμην δὲ γυναῖκα πολυκλήρων ἀνθρώπων
 εἵνεκ' ἐμῆς ἀρετῆς, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἀποφώλιος ἦα
 οὐδὲ φυγοπτόλεμος· νῦν δ' ἤδη πάντα λέλαιπεν·
 ἀλλ' ἔμπης καλὴμην γέ σ' ὁλομαι εἰσορόωντα

torrows, and declare me this truly, that I may know full well. Who art thou among men, and from whence? Where is thy city, and where thy parents? On what manner of ship didst thou come, and how did sailors bring thee to Ithaca? Who did they declare themselves to be? For nowise, methinks, didst thou come hither on foot."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Then verily I will frankly tell thee all. Would that now we two might have food and sweet wine for the while, to feast on in quiet here in thy hut, and that others might go about their work; easily then might I tell on for a full year, and yet in no wise finish the tale of the woes of my spirit—even all the toils that I have endured by the will of the gods.

"From broad Crete I declare that I am come by lineage, the son of a wealthy man. And many other sons too were born and bred in his halls, true sons of a lawful wife; but the mother that bore me was bought, a concubine. Yet Castor, son of Hylax, of whom I declare that I am sprung, honoured me even as his true-born sons. He was at that time honoured as a god among the Cretans in the land for his good estate, and his wealth, and his glorious sons. But the fates of death bore him away to the house of Hades, and his proud sons divided among them his substance, and cast lots therefor. To me they gave a very small portion, and allotted a dwelling. But I took unto me a wife from a house that had wide possessions, winning her by my valour; for I was no weakling, nor a coward in fight. Now all that strength is gone; yet even so, in seeing the stubble, methinks thou mayest judge

γυγνώσκειν ἢ γάρ με δύνῃ ἔχει ἤλιθα πολλή. 215
 ἢ μὲν δὴ θάρσος μοι Ἄρης τ' ἔδωσαν καὶ Ἀθήνη
 καὶ ῥηξηνορίην ὅποτε κρίνοιμι λόχονδε
 ἄνδρας ἀριστῆας, κακὰ δυσμενέεσσι φυτεύων,
 οὐ ποτέ μοι θάνατον προτιόσσετο θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ,
 ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρῶτιστος ἐπ' ἄλμενος ἔγχει ἔλεσκον 220
 ἀνδρῶν δυσμενέων ὃ τέ μοι εἴξειε πόδεσσιν.
 τοῖος ἔα ἐν πολέμφ· ἔργον δέ μοι οὐ φίλον ἔσκειν
 οὐδ' οἰκωφελίη, ἢ τε τρέφει ἀγλαὰ τέκνα,
 ἢ ἀλλὰ μοι αἰεὶ νῆες ἐπήρετμοι φίλαι ἦσαν
 καὶ πόλεμοι καὶ ἄκοντες εὖξεστοι καὶ δίοιτοί, 225
 λυγρά, τὰ τ' ἄλλοισιν γε καταρυγηλὰ πέλονται.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ τὰ φίλ' ἔσκε τὰ που θεὸς ἐν φρεσὶ θῆκεν·
 ἄλλος γὰρ τ' ἄλλοισιν ἀνὴρ ἐπιτέρπεται ἔργοις.
 πρὶν μὲν γάρ Τροίης ἐπιβήμεναι υἱὰς Ἀχαιῶν
 εἰνάκις ἀνδράσιν ἦρξα καὶ ὠκυπόροισι νέεσσιν 230
 ἄνδρας ἐς ἄλλοδαπούς, καὶ μοι μῖλα τύγχανε πολλῇ.
 τῶν ἐξαιρεύμην μενοεικέα, πολλὰ δ' ὀπίσσω
 λάγχανον· αἶψα δὲ οἶκος ὀφέλλετο, καὶ ῥα ἔπειτα
 δεινὸς τ' αἰδοῖός τε μετὰ Κρήτεσσι τετύγμην.
 " Ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ τὴν γε στυγερὴν ὁδὸν εὐρύσπα Ζεὺς 235
 ἐφράσαθ', ἢ πολλῶν ἀνδρῶν ὑπὸ γούνατ' ἔλυσε,
 δὴ τότ' ἐμὶ ἤνωγον καὶ ἀγακλυτὸν Ἰδομενῆα·
 νῆεσσ' ἠγάσασθαι ἐς Ἴλιον· οὐδέ τι μῆχος
 ἦεν ἀνῆνασθαι, χαλεπὴ δ' ἔχε δῆμον φῆμις.
 ἔνθα μὲν εἰνάετες πολεμίζομεν υἱες Ἀχαιῶν, 240
 τῷ δεκάτῳ δὲ πόλιν Πριάμου πέρσαντες ἔβημεν
 οὔκαδε σὺν νηέσσι, θεὸς δ' ἐκέδασσεν Ἀχαιοὺς.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ δειλὴ κακὰ μῆδετο μητίετα Ζεὺς·

what the grain was; for verily troubles in full measure encompass me. But then Ares and Athene gave me courage, and strength that breaks the ranks of men; and whenever I picked the best warriors for an ambush, sowing the seeds of evil for the foe, never did my proud spirit forbode death, but ever far the first did I leap forth, and slay with my spear whosoever of the foe gave way in flight before me.¹ Such a man was I in war, but labour in the field was never to my liking, nor the care of a household, which rears goodly children, but oared ships were ever dear to me, and wars, and polished spears, and arrows,—grievous things, whereat others are wont to shudder. But those things, I ween, were dear to me, which a god put in my heart; for different men take joy in different works. For before the sons of the Achaeans set foot on the land of Troy, I had nine times led warriors and swift-faring ships against foreign folk, and great spoil had ever fallen in my hands. Of this I would choose what pleased my mind, and much I afterwards obtained by lot. Thus my house straightway grew rich, and thereafter I became one feared and honoured among the Cretans.

"But when Zeus, whose voice is borne afar, devised that hateful journey which loosened the knees of many a warrior, then they bade me and glorious Idomeneus to lead the ships to Illos, nor was there any way to refuse, for the voice of the people pressed hard upon us. There for nine years we sons of the Achaeans warred, and in the tenth we sacked the city of Priam, and set out for home in our ships, and a god scattered the Achaeans. But for me, wretched man that I was, Zeus, the counsellor,

¹ Or possibly, "whoever was less fleet of foot than I."

μῆνα γὰρ οἷον ἔμεινα τεταρπόμενος τεκίεσσιν
 κουριδίῃ τ' ἰλόχῳ καὶ κτήμασιν· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα 245
 Αἴγυπτόνδε με θυμὸς ἀνώγει ναυτίλλεσθαι,
 νῆας ἐὺ στείλαντα σὺν ἀντιθέοις ἐτάροισιν.
 ἐννέα νῆας στεῖλα, θοῶς δ' ἐσαγείρατο λαός.
 ἐξήμαρ μὲν ἔπειτα ἐμοὶ ἐρίηρες ἐταῖροι
 δαίνυντ'· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἱερῆα πολλὰ παρείχον 250
 θεοῖσιν τε ῥέζειν αὐτοῖσιν τε δαῖτα πένεσθαι.
 ἐβδομάτῃ δ' ἀναβάντες ἀπὸ Κρήτης εὐρείης
 ἐπλόμεν Βορρῇ ἀνέμῳ ἱεροῖι καλῷ
 ῥηϊδίως, ὥς εἰ τε κατὰ ῥόον· οὐδέ τις οὔν μοι
 νηῶν πημάνθη, ἰλλ' ἀσκηθίης καὶ αἰνουσοι 255
 ἤμεθα, τὰς δ' ἀνεμὸς τε κυβερνήται τ' ἴθουνον.
 "Περμπταῖοι δ' Αἴγυπτον ἐύρρείτην ἰκόμεσθα,
 στῆσα δ' ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ ποταμῷ νέας ἀμφιελίσσας.
 ἐνθ' ἢ τοι μὲν ἐγὼ κελόμην ἐρίηρας ἐταίρους
 αὐτοῦ παρ νήεσσι μάνειν καὶ νῆας ἐρυσθαι, 260
 ὀπτήρος δὲ κατὰ σκοπιάς ὤτρυνα νέεσθαι·
 οἱ δ' ὕβρει εἴξαντες, ἐπισπόμενοι μένει σφῷ,
 αἶψα μάλ' Αἰγυπτίων ἀνδρῶν περικαλλέας ἀγροὺς
 πόρθεον, ἐκ δὲ γυναῖκας ἄγον καὶ νήπια τέκνα,
 αὐτοὺς τ' ἐκτεινον· τάχα δ' ἐς πόλιν ἴκετ' αὐτή. 265
 οἱ δὲ βοῆς ἄγοντες ἄμ' ἡοῖ φαينوμένηφιν
 ἦλθον· πλῆτο δὲ πᾶν πεδίον πεζῶν τε καὶ ἵππων
 χαλκοῦ τε στεροπῆς· ἐν δὲ Ζεὺς τερπικέραυνος
 φύζαν ἐμοῖς ἐτάροισι κακὴν βάλεν, οὐδέ τις ἔτλη
 μῆναι ἐναντίβιον· περὶ γὰρ κακὰ πάντοθεν ἔστη. 270
 ἐνθ' ἡμέων πολλοὺς μὲν ἀπέκτανον ὀξείῃ χαλκῷ,
 τοὺς δ' αἶναγον ζωούς, σφίσιιν ἐργάζεσθαι ἀνάγκη.

devised evil. For a month only I remained, taking joy in my children, my wedded wife, and my wealth; and then to Egypt did my spirit bid me voyage with my godlike comrades, when I had fitted out my ships with care. Nine ships I fitted out, and the host gathered speedily. Then for six days my trusty comrades feasted, and I gave them many victims, that they might sacrifice to the gods, and prepare a feast for themselves; and on the seventh we embarked and set sail from broad Crete, with the North Wind blowing fresh and fair, and ran on easily as if down stream. No harm came to any of my ships, but free from scathe and from disease we sat, and the wind and the helmsman guided the ships.

"On the fifth day we came to fair-flowing Aegyptus, and in the river Aegyptus I moored my curved ships. Then verily I bade my trusty comrades to remain there by the ships, and to guard the ships, and I sent out scouts to go to places of outlook. But my comrades, yielding to wantonness, and led on by their own might, straightway set about wasting the fair fields of the men of Egypt; and they carried off the women and little children, and slew the men; and the cry came quickly to the city. Then, hearing the shouting, the people came forth at break of day, and the whole plain was filled with footmen, and chariots, and the flashing of bronze. But Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt cast an evil panic upon my comrades, and none had the courage to hold his ground and face the foe; for evil surrounded us on every side. So then they slew many of us with the sharp bronze, and others they led up to their city alive, to work for them perforce. But

αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ Ζεὺς αὐτὸς ἐνὶ φρεσὶν ὦδε νόημα
 ποίησ'—ὡς ὄφελον θανέειν καὶ πότμον ἐπισπεῖν
 αὐτοῦ ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ· ἔτι γὰρ νῦν με πῆμ' ὑπέδεκτο— 273
 αὐτίκ' ἀπὸ κρατὸς κυνέην εὖτυκτον ἔβηκα
 καὶ σάκος ὤμοισν, δόρυ δ' ἔκβαλον ἔκτοσε χειρός·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ βασιλῆος ἐναντίον ἤλυθον ἱππῶν
 καὶ κύσα γοῖναθ' ἐλῶν· ὁ δ' ἐρύσατο καὶ μ' ἐλέησεν,¹
 ἐς δίφρον δέ μ' ἔσας ἄγεν οἴκαδε δάκρυ χέοντα. 280
 ἢ μὲν μοι μάλα πολλοὶ ἐπήϊσσον μελήσιν,
 ἰέμενοι κτεῖναι—δὴ γὰρ κεχολώατο λήν—
 ἀλλ' ἀπὸ κείνος ἔρυκε, Διὸς δ' ὠπίζετο μῆνιν·
 ξεινίου, ὃς τε μάλιστα νημεσσάται κακὰ ἔργα.
 “Ἐνθα μὲν ἐπτάετες μένον αὐτόθι, πολλὰ δ' ἄγχι 285
 χρήματ' ἄν' Αἰγυπτίους ἀνδρας· δίδοσαν γὰρ ἅπαντες.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ὀγδόατόν μοι ἐπιπλόμενον ἔτος ἦλθεν,
 δὴ τότε Φοῖνιξ ἦλθεν ἀνὴρ ἀπατήλια εἰδώς,
 τρώκτης, ὃς δὴ πολλὰ κακ' ἀνθρώποισιν ἐώργει·
 ὃς μ' ἄγε παρπεπιθὼν ἦσι φρεσὶν, ὄφρ' ἰκόμεσθα 290
 Φοινίκην, ὅθι τοῦ γε δόμοι καὶ κτήματ' ἔκειτο.
 ἔνθα παρ' αὐτῷ μείνα τελεσφόρον εἰς ἐνιαυτόν.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ μῆνις τε καὶ ἡμέραι ἐξετελεῦντο
 ἀψ' περιτελλομένου ἔτεος καὶ ἐπήλυθον ὥραι,
 ἐς Λιβύην μ' ἐπὶ νηὸς εἰσάτο ποντοπόροιο 295
 ψεύδεα βουλευσας, ἵνα οἱ σὶν φόρτον ἄγοιμι,
 κοῖθι δέ μ' ὡς περάσειε καὶ ἄσπετον ὦνον ἔλοιτο.
 τῷ ἐπόμεν ἐπὶ νηὸς, οἰόμενός περ, ἀνάγκη.
 ἢ δ' ἔβηεν Βορέη ἀνέμῳ ἱκράϊϊ καλῷ,
 μέσσον ὑπὲρ Κρήτης· Ζεὺς δέ σφισι μῆδετ' ὄλεθρον. 300

¹ ἐλέησεν: ἐλάμειν.

n my heart Zeus himself put this thought—I would that I had rather died and met my fate there in Egypt, for still was sorrow to give me welcome. Straightway I put off from my head my well-wrought helmet, and the shield from off my shoulders, and let the spear fall from my hand, and went toward the chariot horses of the king. I clasped, and kissed his knees, and he delivered me, and took pity on me, and, settling me in his chariot, took me weeping to his home. Verily full many rushed upon me with their ashen spears, eager to slay me, for they were exceeding angry. But he warded them off, and had regard for the wrath of Zeus, the stranger's god, who above all others hath indignation at evil deeds.

"There then I stayed seven years, and much wealth did I gather among the Egyptians, for all men gave me gifts. But when the eighth circling year was come, then there came a man of Phoenicia, well versed in guile, a greedy knave, who had already wrought much evil among men. He prevailed upon me by his cunning, and took me with him, until we reached Phoenicia, where lay his house and his possessions. There I remained with him for a full year. But when at length the months and the days were being brought to fulfilment, as the year rolled round and the seasons came on, he set me on a seafaring ship bound for Libya, having given lying counsel to the end that I should convey a cargo with him, but in truth that, when there, he might sell me and get a vast price. So I went with him on board the ship, suspecting his guile, yet perforce. And she ran before the North Wind, blowing fresh and fair, on a mid-sea course to the windward of Crete, and Zeus

ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Κρήτην μὲν εἰλείπομεν, οὐδέ τις ἄλλη
 φαίνεται γαίῳ, ἀλλ' οὐρανὸς ἠδὲ θάλασσα,
 δὴ τότε κυανὴν νεφέλην ἔστησε Κρονίων
 νηὸς ὑπὲρ γλαφυρῆς, ἤχλυσε δὲ πόντος ὑπ' αὐτῆς.
 Ζεὺς δ' ἄμυδις βρόντησε καὶ ἔμβαλε νηϊ κεραυνόν· 303
 ἢ δ' ἐλελήχθη πᾶσα Διὸς πληγείσα κεραυνῷ,
 ἐν δὲ θεοῖον πλήτο· πέσον δ' ἐκ νηὸς ἅπαντες.
 οἱ δὲ κορώνησιν ἱκελοι περὶ νῆα μέλαιναν
 κύμοσιν ἐμφορέοντο· θεὸς δ' ἀποαίνυτο νόστον.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ Ζεὺς αὐτός, ἔχοντί περ ἄλγεα θυμῷ, 310
 ἰσθὺν ἀμοιμάκετον νηὸς κυανοσπρόροιο
 ἐν χεῖρεσσιν ἔθηκεν, ὅπως ἔτι πῆμα φύγοιμι.
 τῇ ῥα περιπλεχθεὶς φερόμην ὄλοοις ἀνέμοισιν.
 ἐννήμαρ φερόμην, δεκάτῃ δέ με νυκτὶ μελαίνῃ
 γαίῃ θεσπρωτῶν πέλασεν μέγα κύμα κυλίνδον. 315
 ἔνθα με θεσπρωτῶν βασιλεὺς ἐκομίσσατο Φεΐδων
 ἦρως ἀπριάτην· τοῦ γὰρ φίλος υἱὸς ἐπελθὼν
 αἶθρῳ καὶ καμάτῳ δεδμημένον ἦγεν ἐς οἶκον,
 χειρὸς ἀναστήσας, ὅφρ' ἵκετο δῶματα πατρός·
 ἀμφὶ δέ με χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἴματα ἔσσειν. 320
 "Ἐνθ' Ὀδυσῆος ἐγὼ πυθόμην· κείνος γὰρ ἔφασκε
 ξιώσσαι ἠδὲ φιλήσαι ἰόντ' ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν,
 καὶ μοι κτήματ' ἔδειξεν ὅσα ξυταγείρατ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
 χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τε πολὺκμητὸν τε σίδηρον.
 καὶ νῦν κεν ἐς δεκάτην γενεὴν ἕτερόν γ' ἔτι βῶσκοι· 325
 τόσσα οἱ ἐν μεγάροις κειμήλια κεῖτο ἀνακτος.
 τὸν δ' ἐς Δωδώνην φάτο βῆμεναι, ὅφρα θεοῖο

devised destruction for the men. But when we had left Crete, and no other land appeared, but only sky and sea, then verily the son of Cronos set a black cloud above the hollow ship, and the sea grew dark beneath it. Therewith Zeus thundered, and hurled his bolt upon the ship, and she quivered from stem to stern, smitten by the bolt of Zeus, and was filled with sulphurous smoke, and all the crew fell from out the ship. Like sea-crows they were borne on the waves about the black ship, and the god took from them their returning. But as for me, Zeus himself when my heart was compassed with woe, put into my hands the tossing¹ mast of the dark-prowed ship, that I might again escape destruction. Around this I clung, and was borne by the direful winds. For nine days I was borne, but on the tenth black night the great rolling wave brought me to the land of the Thesprotians. There the king of the Thesprotians, lord Pheidon, took me in, and asked no ransom, for his dear son came upon me, overcome as I was with cold and weariness; and raised me by the hand, and led me until he came to his father's palace; and he clothed me in a cloak and tunic, as raiment.

"There I learned of Odysseus, for the king said that he had entertained him, and given him welcome on his way to his native land. And he showed me all the treasure that Odysseus had gathered, bronze, and gold, and iron, wrought with toil; verily unto the tenth generation would it feed his children after him, so great was the wealth that lay stored for him in the halls of the king. But Odysseus, he said, had

¹ Lit. "raging." Others render "hugo," "of great length."

ἐκ δρυὸς ὑψικόμοιο Διὸς βούλῃν ἐπακούσαι,
 ὅππως νοστήσει· Ἰθάκης ἐς πτόνα δῆμον
 ἦδη δὴν ἀπείων, ἢ ὑμφιδὸν ἢ κρυφιδόν. 330
 ὦμοσε δὲ πρὸς ἔμ' αὐτόν, ἀποσπένδων ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 νῆα κατειρύσθαι καὶ ἐπαρτίας ἔμμον ἱταίρους,
 οἳ δὴ μιν πέμψουσι φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ πρὶν ἀπέπεμψε· τύχησε γὰρ ἐρχομένη νηὺς
 ἀνδρῶν Θεσπρωτῶν ἐς Δουλίχιον πολύπυρον. 335
 ἐνθ' ὃ γέ μ' ἠνώγει πέμψαι βασιλῆϊ Ἀκυστροφ
 ἐνδυκέως· τοῖσιν δὲ κακὴ φρεσὶν ἦνδανε βουλὴ
 ἀμφ' ἐμοί, ὅφρ' ἔτι πάγχυ δῦης ἐπὶ πῆμα γενοίμην.
 ἰλλ' ὅτε γαίης πολλὸν ἀπέπλω ποντοπόρος νηὺς,
 αὐτίκα δούλιον ἡμαρ ἐμοὶ περιμηχανόωντο. 340
 ἐκ μὲν με χλαῖν' αὖν τε χιτῶνά τε εἶματ' ἔδυσαν,
 ἀμφὶ δέ μοι ῥάκος ἄλλο κακὸν βάλλον ἠδὲ χιτῶνα,
 ῥωγαλέα, τὰ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὄρηαι·
 ἱσπέριοι δ' Ἰθάκης εὐδειέλου ἐργ' ἀφίκοντο.
 ἐνθ' ἐμὲ μὲν κατέδυσαν εὐσσέλμῳ ἐνὶ νηὶ 345
 ὅπλῳ εὐστρεφέϊ στερεῶς, αὐτοὶ δ' ἀποβάντες
 ἱσσυμένως παρὰ θῖνα θαλάσσης δόρπον ἔλοντο.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ δεσμὸν μὲν ἀνέγναμψαν θεοὶ αὐτοὶ
 ῥηϊδίως· κεφαλῇ δὲ κατὰ ῥάκος ἀμφικαλύψας,
 ξυστὸν ἐφόλκαιον καταβὰς ἐπέλασσα θαλάσση 350
 στῆθος, ἔπειτα δὲ χερσὶ διήρεσσ' ἄμφοτέρῃσι
 νηχόμενος, μάλα δ' ὦκα θύρηθ' ἔα ὑμφίς ἐκείνων.
 ἐνθ' ἀναβὰς, ὅθι τε δριὸς ἦν πολυανθέος ὕλης,
 κείμην πεπτηώς. οἳ δὲ μεγάλα στενάχοντες

gone to Dodona, to hear the will of Zeus from the high-crested oak of the god, even how he might return to the rich land of Ithaca after so long an absence, whether openly or in secret. And moreover he swore in my own presence, as he poured libations in his house, that the ship was launched, and the men ready, who were to convey him to his dear native land. But me he sent forth first, for a ship of the Thesprotians chanced to be setting out for Dulichium, rich in wheat. Thither he bade them to convey me with kindly care, to king Acastus. But an evil counsel regarding me found favour in their hearts, that I might even yet be brought into utter misery. When the sea-faring ship had sailed far from the land, they presently sought to bring about for me the day of slavery. They stripped me of my garments, my cloak and tunic, and clothed me in other raiment, a vile ragged cloak and tunic, even the tattered garments which thou seest before thine eyes; and at evening they reached the tilled fields of clear-seen Ithaca. Then with a twisted rope they bound me fast in the benched ship, and themselves went ashore, and made haste to take their supper by the shore of the sea. But as for me, the gods themselves undid my bonds full easily, and, wrapping the tattered cloak about my head, I slid down the smooth lading-plank,¹ and brought my breast to the sea, and then struck out with both hands, and swam, and very soon was out of the water, and away from them. Then I went up to a place where there was a thicket of leafy wood, and lay there crouching. And they went hither and thither with loud

¹ So Monro. The word is a doubtful one. Others, following Eustathius, render "steering-oar."

φοίτων· ἄλλ' οὐ γάρ σφιν ἐφαίνετο κέρδιον εἶναι 355
μαίεσθαι προτέρω, τοὶ μὲν πάλιν αὖτις ἔβαινον
νῆος ἐπὶ γλαφυρῆς· ἐμὲ δ' ἔκρυψαν θεοὶ αὐτοὶ
ῥηιδίως, καὶ με σταθμῷ ἐπέλασσαν ἄγοντες
ἄνδρὸς ἐπισταμένον· ὅτι γάρ νύ μοι αἶσα βιῶναι."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα· 360
"Ἄ δειλὲ ξείνων, ἢ μοι μίλα θυμὸν ὄρινας
ταῦτα ἕκαστα λέγων, ὅσα δὴ πάθες ἤδ' ὅσ' ἀλήθης.
ἀλλὰ τὴ γ' οὐ κατὰ κόσμον ὀλομαι, οὐδέ με πείσεις
εἰπὼν ἄμφ' Ὀδυσῆϊ· τί σε χρὴ τοῖον ἰόντα
μαψιδίως ψεύδεσθαι; ἐγὼ δ' εὖ οἶδα καὶ αὐτὸς 365
νόστον ἐμοῖο ἄνακτος, δ' τ' ἤχθετο πᾶσι θεοῖσι
πάνγχυ μάλ', ὅττι μιν οὐ τι μετὰ Τρώεσσι δάμασσαν
ἢ φίλων ἐν χερσίν, ἐπεὶ πόλεμον πολύπνευσε,
τῷ κέν οἱ τύμβον μὲν ἐποίησαν Παναχαιοί,
ἠδὲ κε καὶ ᾧ παιδὶ μέγα κλέος ἦρατ' ὀπίσσω.¹ 370
νῦν δέ μιν ἀκλαιῶς ἄρπυιαι ἀνιρέψαντο,
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ πᾶρ' ἕσσω ἀπότηροπος· οὐδὲ πόλινδε
ἔρχομαι, εἰ μὴ πού τι περίφρων Πηνελόπεια
ἐλθέμεν ὀτρύνῃσιν, ὅτ' ἰγγελίῃ ποθὲν ἔλθῃ.
ἀλλ' οἱ μὲν τὰ ἕκαστα παρήμενοι ἐξερέουσιν, 375
ἡμὲν οἱ ἄχυνται δὴν οἰχομένοιο ἄνακτος,
ἠδ' οἱ χαίρουσιν βίοτον νήποινον ἔδουτες·
ἀλλ' ἐμοὶ οὐ φίλον ἐστὶ μεταλλῆσαι καὶ ἐρίσθαι,
ἐξ οὗ δὴ μ' Αἰτωλὸς ἀνὴρ ἐξήπαφε μύθῳ,
ὅς ῥ' ἄνδρα κτείνας, πολλὴν ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἀληθείς, 380
ἦλθεν ἐμὰ πρὸς δώματ'· ἐγὼ δέ μιν ἄμφαγάπαζον.
φῆ δέ μιν ἐν Κρήτεσσι παρ' Ἰδομενῆϊ ἰδέσθαι

¹ Lines 369-70 (= L. 239-40; cf. xxiv. 32-3) are omitted in many MSS.

cries; but as there seemed to be no profit in going further in their search, they went back again on board their hollow ships. And the gods themselves hid me easily, and led me, and brought me to the farmstead of a wise man; for still haply it is my lot to live."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Ah, wretched stranger, verily thou hast stirred my heart deeply in telling all the tale of thy sufferings and thy wanderings. But in this, methinks, thou hast not spoken aright, nor shalt thou persuade me with thy tale about Odysseus. Why shouldst thou, who art in such plight, lie to no purpose? Nay, of myself I know well regarding the return of my master, that he was utterly hated of all the gods, in that they did not slay him among the Trojans, or in the arms of his friends, when he had wound up the skein of war. Then would the whole host of the Achæans have made him a tomb, and for his son too he would have won great glory in days to come. But as it is the spirits of the storm have swept him away, and left no tidings. I, for my part, dwell aloof with the swine, nor do I go to the city, unless haply wise Penelope bids me thither, when tidings come to her from anywhere. Then men sit around him that comes, and question him closely, both those that grieve for their lord, that has long been gone, and those who rejoice, as they devour his substance without atonement. But I care not to ask or enquire, since the time when an Aetolian beguiled me with his story, one that had killed a man, and after wandering over the wide earth came to my house, and I gave him kindly welcome. He said that he had seen Odysseus among the Cretans at the house of

νήας ἀκείόμενον, τὰς οἱ ξυνέαζαν ἀελλαι·
 καὶ φάτ' ἐλεύσεσθαι ἢ ἐς θέρος ἢ ἐς ὀπώρην,
 πολλὰ χρήματ' ἄγοντα, σὺν ἀντιθέοις ἐτάροισι. 385
 καὶ σύ, γέρον πολυπενθές, ἐπεὶ σέ μοι ἦγαγε δαίμων;
 μήτε τί μοι ψεύδεσσι χαρίζεο μήτε τι θέλγῃ·
 οὐ γὰρ τοῦνεκ' ἐγὼ σ' αἰδέσσομαι οὐδὲ φιλήσω,
 ἀλλὰ Δία ξένιον δέσας αὐτόν τ' ἐλεαίρων."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Ἡ μᾶλα τίς τοι θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νῆπιος, 391
 οἷόν σ' οὐδ' ὁμός τις περ ἐπὶ γαίῃ οὐδέ σε πείθω.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ῥήτῃν ποιησόμεθ'. αὐτὰρ ὅπισθε¹
 μάρτυροι ἀμφοτέροισι θεοί, τοὶ Ὀλυμπὸν ἔχουσιν.
 εἰ μὲν κεν νοστήσῃ ἀναξ τεὸς ἐς τόδε δῶμα, 395
 ἔσσης με χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἵματα πέμψαι
 Δουλίχιόνδ' ἵεναι, ὅθι μοι φίλον ἔπλετο θυμῷ·
 εἰ δέ κε μὴ ἔλθῃσιν ἀναξ τεὸς ὥς ἀγορεύω,
 δμῶας ἐπισσεύας βαλέειν μεγάλης κατὰ πέτρης,
 δόφρα καὶ ἄλλος πτωχὸς ἀλύνεται ἡπεροπενύειν." 400

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσεφώνεε διὸς ὕφορβός·
 "Ξεῖν', οὕτω γὰρ κέν μοι εὐκλείη τ' ἀρετὴ τε
 εἴη ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους ἅμα τ' αὐτίκα καὶ μετέπειτα,
 ὅς σ' ἐπαί ἐς κλισίην ἄγαγον καὶ ξείνια δῶκα,
 αὐτίς δὲ κτείναιμι φίλον τ' ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἐλοίμην· 405
 πρόφρων κεν δὴ ἔπειτα Δία Κρονίωνα λιτοίμην.
 νῦν δ' ὥρῃ δόρποιο· τάχισταί μοι ἔνδον ἐταῖροι
 εἴεν, ἵν' ἐν κλισίῃ λαρόν τετυκοίμεθα δόρπον."

Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
 ἀγχίμολον δὲ σῦες τε καὶ ἀνέρες ἦλθον ὕφορβοί. 410
 τὰς μὲν ἄρα ἔρξαν κατὰ ἥθεα κοιμηθῆναι,
 κλαγγὴ δ' ἄσπετος ὤρτο συνῶν ἀυλιζομένων.
 αὐτὰρ ὁ οἷς ἐταῖροισιν ἐκέκλετο διὸς ὕφορβός·

¹ ὀπίσθε: ὑπερθε.

Idomenens, mending his ships which storms had shattered. And he said that he would come either by summer or by harvest-time, bringing much treasure along with his godlike comrades. Thou too, old man of many sorrows, since a god has brought thee to me, seek not to win my favour by lies, nor in any wise to cajole me. It is not for this that I shall shew thee respect or kindness, but from fear of Zeus, the stranger's god, and from pity for thyself."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Verily thou hast in thy bosom a heart that is slow to believe, seeing that in such wise, even with an oath, I won thee not, neither persuade thee. But come now, let us make a covenant, and the gods who hold Olympus shall be witnesses for us both in time to come. If thy master returns to this house, clothe me in a cloak and tunic, as raiment, and send me on my way to Dulichium, where I desire to be. But if thy master does not come as I say, set the slaves upon me, and fling me down from a great cliff, that another beggar may beware of deceiving."

And the goodly swineherd answered him, and said: "Aye, stranger, so should I indeed win fair fame and prosperity among men both now and hereafter, if I, who brought thee to my hut and gave thee entertainment, should then slay thee, and take away thy dear life. With a ready heart thereafter should I pray to Zeus, son of Cronos. But it is now time for supper, and may my comrades soon be here, that we may make ready a savoury supper in the hut."

Thus they spoke to one another, and the swine and the swineherds drew near. The sows they shut up to sleep in their wonted sties, and a wondrous noise arose from them, as they were penned. Then the goodly swineherd called to his comrades saying:

“Ἄξειθ' ὕῳ τὸν ἄριστον, ἵνα ξείνῳ ἱερεύσω
 τηλεδαπῶ· πρὸς δ' αὐτοὶ ὀνησόμεθ', οἳ περ οἴζυν 415
 δὴν ἔχομεν πάσχοντες ὕῳ ἕνεκ' ἀργιοδόντων·
 ἄλλοι δ' ἡμέτερον κάρματον νήποινον ἔδουσιν.”

Ἦς ἄρα φωνήσας κέασε ξύλα νηλεῖ χαλκῷ,
 οἱ δ' ὕν εἰσῆγον μάλα πῖονα πενταέτηρον.
 τὸν μὲν ἔπειτ' ἔστησαν ἐπ' ἐσχάρῃ· οὐδὲ συβώτης 420
 λήθεται ἄρ' ἀθανάτων· φρεσὶ γὰρ κέχρητ' ἀγαθῆσιν·
 ἀλλ' ὄγ' ἀπαρχόμενος κεφαλῆς τρίχας ἐν πυρὶ βύλλαν
 ἀργιόδοντος ὕος, καὶ ἐπεύχετο πᾶσι θεοῖσιν
 νοστήσαι Ὀδυσῆα πολύφρονα δνδε δόμονδε.
 κόψε δ' ἀνασχόμενος σχίξῃ δρυός, ἣν λίπε κείων 425
 τὸν δ' ἔλιπε ψυχῇ· τοὶ δ' ἔσφαζύν τε καὶ εὔσαν·
 αἶψα δέ μιν διέχευαν· ὁ δ' ὠμοθετεῖτο συβώτης,
 πάντων ἀρχόμενος μελέων, ἐς πῖονα δημόν,
 καὶ τὰ μὲν ἐν πυρὶ βύλλῃ, παλύνας ἀλφίτου ἀκτῇ,
 μίστυλλον τ' ἄρα τᾶλλα καὶ ἀμφ' ὀβελοῖσιν ἐπειραν,
 ὥπτησάν τε περιφραδέως ἐρύσαντ' ὅ τε πάντα, 431
 βύλλον δ' εἰν ἑλεοῖσιν ἀολλέα· ἂν δὲ συβώτης
 ἴστατο δαιτρεύσων· περὶ γὰρ φρεσὶν αἵσιμα ἦδη.
 καὶ τὰ μὲν ἑπταχα πάντα διμοιρᾶτο δαίξων·
 τὴν μὲν ἱαν νύμφῃσι καὶ Ἑρμῇ, Μαιάδος υἱεῖ, 435
 θῆκεν ἐπενξάμενος, τὰς δ' ἄλλας νεῖμεν ἐκάστω·
 νῶτοισιν δ' Ὀδυσῆα διηνεκέσσι γέραιρεν
 ἀργιόδοντος ὕος, κύδαινε δὲ θυμὸν ἀνακτος·
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Λιθ' οὕτως, ἔϋμαιε, φίλος Διὶ πατρὶ γένοιο 440
 ὥς ἐμοί, ὅττι τε τοῖον ἐόντ' ἀγαθοῖσι γεραίρεις.”

"Bring forth the best of the boars, that I may slaughter him for the stranger who comes from afar, and we too shall have some profit therefrom, who have long borne toll and suffering for the sake of the white-tusked swine, while others devour our labour without atonement."

So saying, he split wood with the pitiless bronze, and the others brought in a fatted boar of five years old, and set him by the hearth. Nor did the swineherd forget the immortals, for he had an understanding heart, but as a first offering he cast into the fire bristles from the head of the white-tusked boar, and made prayer to all the gods that wise Odysseus might return to his own house. Then he raised himself up, and smote the boar with a billet of oak, which he had left when splitting the wood, and the boar's life left him. And the others cut the boar's throat, and singed him, and quickly cut him up, and the swineherd took as first offerings bits of raw flesh from all the limbs, and laid them in the rich fat. These he cast into the fire, when he had sprinkled them with barley meal, but the rest they cut up and spitted, and roasted it carefully, and drew it all off the spits, and cast it in a heap on platters. Then the swineherd stood up to carve, for well did his heart know what was fair, and he cut up the mess and divided it into seven portions. One with a prayer he set aside for the nymphs and for Hermes, son of Maia, and the rest he distributed to each. And Odysseus he honoured with the long chine of the white-tusked boar, and made glad the heart of his master; and Odysseus of many wiles spoke to him, and said:

"Panaeus, mayest thou be as dear to father Zeus as thou art to me, since thou honourest me with a good portion, albeit I am in such plight."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα·
 "Ἐσθιε, δαιμόνιε ξείνων, καὶ τέρπεο τοῖσδε,
 οἷα πάρεστι· θεὸς δὲ τὸ μὲν δώσει, τὸ δ' ἑάσει,
 ὅττι κεν ᾧ θυμῷ ἐθέλῃ· δύναται γὰρ ἅπαντα." 443

Ἦ ῥα καὶ ἄργματα θῦσε θεοῖς αἰειγενέτῃσι,
 σπείσας δ' αἰθῶπα οἶνον Ὀδυσσῇ πτολιπόρθῳ
 ἐν χεῖρεσσιν ἔθηκεν· ὁ δ' ἔζετο ἥ παρὰ μοίρῃ.
 σίτον δὲ σφιν ἔνειμε Μεσαύλιος, ὃν ῥα συβώτης
 αὐτὸς κτήσατο οἷος ἀποικομένοιο ἀνακτος, 450
 νόσφιν δεσποίνης καὶ Λαέρταο γέροντος·
 παρ δ' ἄρα μιν Ταφίων πρίατο κτεάτεσσιν ἰοῖσιν.
 οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἑδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,
 σίτον μὲν σφιν ἀφείλε Μεσαύλιος, οἱ δ' ἐπὶ κοῖτον 455
 σίτον καὶ κρειῶν κεκορημένοι ἐσσεύοντο.

Νῦξ δ' ἄρ' ἐπῆλθε κακὴ σκοτομήνιος, ἣ δ' ἄρα Ζεὺς
 πάννυχος. αὐτὰρ ἄη Ζέφυρος μέγας αἰὲν ἔφυδρος.
 τοῖς δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μετέειπε, συβώτῃσι πειρηγίζων,
 εἰ πῶς οἱ ἐκδὺς χλαῖναν πόροι, ἢ τιν' ἐταῖρων 460
 ἄλλον ἐποτρύνειν, ἐπεὶ ἴο κήδετο λίην·

"Κέκλυθι νῦν, Εὐμαίε καὶ ἄλλοι πάντες ἐταῖροι,
 εὐξάμενός τι ἔπος ἐρέω· οἶνος γὰρ ἀνώγει
 ἡλεός, ὃς τ' ἐφέηκε πολύφρονά περ μάλ' ἀεῖσαι
 καὶ θ' ἀπαλὸν γελᾶσαι, καὶ τ' ὀρχήσασθαι ἀνῆκε, 465
 καὶ τι ἔπος προέηκεν δ' περ τ' ἄρρητον ἄμεινον.
 ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τὸ πρῶτον ὀνέκραγον, οὐκ ἐπικεύσω.
 εἴθ' ὥς ἡβώοιμι βίῃ τέ μοι ἔμπεδος εἴη,

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Eat, unhappy stranger, and have joy of such fare as is here. It is the god that will give one thing and withhold another, even as seems good to his heart; for he can do all things."

He spoke, and sacrificed the firstling pieces to the gods that are for ever, and, when he had made libations of the flaming wine, he placed the cup in the hands of Odysseus, the sacker of cities, and took his seat by his own portion. And bread was served to them by Mesaulius, whom the swineherd had gotten by himself alone, while his master was gone, without the knowledge of his mistress or the old Laertes, buying him of the Taphians with his own goods. So they put forth their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, Mesaulius took away the food, and they were fain to go to their rest, sated with bread and meat.

Now the night came on, foul and without a moon, and Zeus rained the whole night through, and the West Wind, ever the rainy wind, blew strong. Then Odysseus spoke among them, making trial of the swineherd, to see whether he would strip off his own cloak and give it him, or bid some other of his comrades to do so, since he cared for him so greatly:

"Hear me now, Eumæus, and all the rest of you, his men, with a wish in my heart will I tell a tale; for the wine bids me, befooling wine, which sets one, even though he be right wise, to singing and laughing softly, and makes him stand up and dance, aye, and brings forth a word which were better unspoken. Still, since I have once spoken out, I will hide nothing. Would that I were young and my strength firm as

ὥς ὅθ' ὑπὸ Τροίην λόχον ἵργομεν ἀρτύναντες.
 ἡγείσθην δ' Ὀδυσσεύς τε καὶ Ἀτρεΐδης Μενέλαος, 470
 τοῖσι δ' ἅμα τρίτος ἦρχον ἐγών· αὐτοὶ γὰρ ἄνωγον.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἰκόμεσθα ποτὶ πτόλιν αἰπὺ τε τείχος,
 ἡμεῖς μὲν περὶ ἄστυ κατὰ βωπήϊα πυκνά,
 ἂν δόνακας καὶ ἔλος, ὑπὸ τεύχεσι πεπτηῶτες
 κείμεθα. νύξ δ' ἄρ' ἐπήλθε κακὴ Βορέας πεσόντος, 475
 πηγυλῖς· ἀντάρ ὑπερθε χιῶν γένετ' ἥύτε πᾶχνη.
 ψυχρὴ, καὶ σακέεσσι περιτρέφετο κρύσταλλος.
 ἐνθ' ἄλλοι πάντες χλαῖνας ἔχον ἢ δὲ χιτῶνας,
 εὐδον δ' εὐκηλοὶ, σάκεσιν εἰλυμένοι ὤμους·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ χλαῖναν μὲν ἰὼν ἰτάροισιν ἔλειπον 480
 ἀφραδίης, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐφύμην βρωγασέμεν ἔμπης,
 ἀλλ' ἐπόμεν σάκος οἷον ἔχων καὶ ζῶμα φαιδόν.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ τρίχα νυκτὸς ἔην, μετὰ δ' ἄστρο βεβήκει,
 καὶ τότε ἐγὼν Ὀδυσῆα προσηύδα· ἐγγὺς ἔοντα
 ἀγκῶνι νύξας· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἐμπαπίως ὑπάκουσε· 485
 "Διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεύ,
 οὐ τοι ἔτι ζωοῖσι μετέσσομαι, ἀλλὰ με χεῖμα
 δάμναται· οὐ γὰρ ἔχω χλαῖναν· παρά μ' ἦπαφε δαίμων
 οἰοχίτων' ἔμεναι· νῦν δ' οὐκέτι φυκτὰ πέλονται.
 "Ὡς ἐφάμην, ὁ δ' ἔπειτα νόον· σθέθε τόνδ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ, 490
 οἷος κείνος ἔην βουλευέμεν ἢ δὲ μάχεσθαι·
 φθονεῖν δ' ὀλέγη δ' ἐπὶ μέγ' ἔπος μῦθον εἶπε·
 "Σίγα νῦν, μή τίς στυ· Ἀχαιῶν ἄλλος ἀκούσῃ.
 "Ἢ καὶ ἐπ' ἀγκῶνος κεφαλὴν σθέθεν εἶπέ τε μῦθον·
 "Κλύτε, φίλοι· θεῖός μοι ἐνύπνιον ἦλθεν δνείρος.¹ 495
 λίην γὰρ νηῶν ἐκάς ἦλθομεν· ἡλλά τις εἶη

¹ Line 495 (= *Iliad* II, 56) was rejected by Aristarchus.

when we made ready our ambush, and led it beneath the walls of Troy. The leaders were Odysseus and Menelaus, son of Atreus, and with them I was third in command; for so had they ordered it themselves. Now when we had come to the city and the steep wall, round about the town in the thick brushwood among the reeds and swamp-land we lay, crouching beneath our arms, and night came on, foul, when the North Wind had fallen, and frosty, and snow came down on us from above, covering us like rime, bitter cold, and ice formed upon our shields. Now all the rest had cloaks and tunics, and slept in peace, with their shields covering their shoulders, but I, when I set out, had left my cloak behind with my comrades in my folly, for I did not think that even so I should be cold, and had come with my shield alone and my bright kilt.¹ But when it was the third watch of the night, and the stars had turned their course, then I spoke to Odysseus, who was near me, nudging him with my elbow; and he straightway gave ear:

"Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many devices, lo now, no longer shall I be among the living. Nay, the cold is killing me, for I have no cloak. Some god beguiled me to wear my tunic only, and now there is no more escape."

"So I spoke, and he then devised this plan in his heart, such a man was he both to plan and to fight; and speaking in a low voice he said to me: 'Be silent now, lest another of the Achæans hear thee.'

"With this he raised his head upon his elbow, and spoke, saying: 'Hear me, friends; a dream from the gods came to me in my sleep. Lo, we have come very far from the ships, and I would that there were

¹ Others regard the word *ζώνη* as here equivalent to *χιτών*.

εἰπεῖν Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνωνι, ποιμένι λαῶν,
εἰ πλείονας παρὰ ναῦφιν ἐποτρύνειε νέεσθαι.¹

“Ὡς ἔφατ’, ὦρτο δ’ ἐπειτα Θόας, Ἀνδραίμονος υἱός,
καρπαλίμως, ἀπὸ δὲ χλαῖναν θέτο φοινικέεσσαν, 500
βῆ δὲ θέειν ἐπὶ νῆας· ὁγὼ δ’ ἐνὶ εἵματι κείνου
καίμην ἀσπασίως, φάς δὲ χρυσόθρονος Ἡώς.
ὥς νῦν ἡβῶοιμι βίῃ τέ μοι ἔμπεδος εἴη·
δοίη κέν τις χλαῖναν ἐνὶ σταθμοῖσι συφορβῶν,
ἀμφοτέρων, φιλότῃτι καὶ αἰδοῖ φωτὸς ἧος· 505
νῦν δέ μ’ ἀτιμάζουσιν κακὰ χροῖ εἵματ’ ἔχοντα.”²

Τὸν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα·
“ὦ γέρον, αἶψος μὲν τοι ἀμύμων, ὃν κατέλεξας,
οὐδέ τί πω παρὰ μοῖραν ἔπος νηκερδὲς ζειπες·
τῷ οὔτ’ ἐσθῆτος δευήσῃαι οὔτε τεν ἄλλον, 510
ὣν ἐπέοιχ’ ἱκέτην ταλαπείριον ἀντιάσαντα,
νῦν· ἀτὰρ ἠῶθέν γε τὰ σά ρά κεα ἐνοπαλίζεις.
οὐ γὰρ πολλαὶ χλαῖναι ἐπημοιβοὶ τε χιτῶνες
ἐνθάδε ἐννυσθαι, μία δ’ οἷη φωτὶ ἐκάστω.
αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν ἔλθῃσιν Ὀδυσσεύος φίλος υἱός, 515
αὐτὸς τοι χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἵματα δώσει,
πέμψει δ’ ὅππῃ σε κραδίη θυμός τε κελεύει.”³

Ὡς εἰπὼν ἀνόρουσε, τίθει δ’ ἄρα οἱ πυρὸς ἐγγὺς
εὐνὴν, ἐν δ’ ὀίῳν τε καὶ αἰγῶν δέρματ’ ἔβαλλεν.
ἐνθ’ Ὀδυσσεὺς κατέλεκτ’ ἐπὶ δὲ χλαῖναν βάλεν αὐτῷ 520
πυκνὴν καὶ μεγάλην, ἣ οἱ παρεκέσκειτ’ ἀμοιβάς,
ἐννυσθαι ὅτε τις χειμῶν ἔκπαγλος ὄροιτο.

Ὡς ὁ μὲν ἐνθ’ Ὀδυσσεὺς κοιμήσατο, τοὶ δὲ παρ’ αὐτὸν
ἄνδρες κοιμήσαντο νεηνίαι· οὐδὲ συβῶτῃ
ἦν δαεν αὐτόθι κοῖτος, ὧν ἀπο κοιμηθῆναι, 525

¹ Lines 503-5 were rejected by Aristarchus.

² Lines 515-7 are omitted in many MSS.

one to bear word to Agamemnon, son of Atreus, shepherd of the host, in the hope that he might bid more men to come from the ships."

"So he spoke, and Thoas, son of Andraemon, sprang up quickly, and from him flung his purple cloak, and set out to run to the ships. Then in his garment I gladly lay, and golden-throned Dawn appeared. Would that I were young as then, and my strength as firm; then would one of the swineherds in the farmstead give me a cloak both from kindness and from respect for a brave warrior. But as it is they scorn me, since I have foul raiment about me."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Old man, the tale thou hast told is a good one, nor hast thou thus far spoken aught amiss or unprofitably. Wherefore thou shalt lack neither clothing nor aught else that a sore-tried suppliant should receive, when he meets one—for this night at least; but in the morning thou shalt shake about thee those rags of thine. For not many cloaks are here or changes of tunics to put on, but each man has one alone. But when the dear son of Odysseus comes, he will himself give thee a cloak and a tunic as raiment, and will send thee whither-soever thy heart and spirit bid thee go."

So saying, he sprang up and placed a bed for Odysseus near the fire, and cast upon it skins of sheep and goats. There Odysseus lay down, and the swineherd threw over him a great thick cloak, which he kept at hand for a change of clothing whenever a terrible storm should arise.

So there Odysseus slept, and beside him slept the young men. But the swineherd liked not a bed in that place, that he should lay him down away from

ἀλλ' ὃ γ' ἄρ' ἔξω ἰὼν ὠπλίζετο· χαῖρε δ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
 ὅττι ῥά οἱ βιότου περικήδετο νόσφιν ἰόντος.
 πρῶτον μὲν ξίφος ὄξυ περὶ στιβαροῖς βάλετ' ὤμοις,
 ἀμφὶ δὲ χλαῖναν ἱέσσαι· ἀλεξάνεμον, μάλα πυκνήν,
 ἂν δὲ νάκην ἔλετ' αἰγὸς εὐτρεφέος μεγάλιοι, 530
 εἶλετο δ' ὄξυν ἄκοντα, κυνῶν ἀλκτῆρα καὶ ἀνδρῶν.
 βῆ δ' ἵμεται κείων ὄθι περ σῦες ἀργιόδοντες
 πέτρῃ ὑπο γλαφυρῇ εὐδον, Βορέω ὑπ' ἰωγῇ.

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the boars; so he made ready to go outside. And Odysseus was glad that he took such care of his master's substance while he was afar. First Eumæus flung his sharp sword over his strong shoulders, and then put about him a cloak, very thick, to keep off the wind; and he picked up the fleece of a large, well-fatted goat, took a sharp javelin to ward off dogs and men, and went forth to lie down to sleep where the white-tusked boars slept beneath a hollow rock, in a place sheltered from the North Wind.

Ἡ δ' εἰς εὐρύχορον Λακεδαίμονα Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη
 ᾤχετ', Ὀδυσσῆος μεγαθύμου φαίδιμον υἱὸν
 νόστου ὑπομνήσουσα καὶ ὀτρυνέουσα νέεσθαι.
 εὔρε δὲ Τηλέμαχον καὶ Νέστορος ἀγλαὸν υἱὸν
 εὐδὸντ' ἐν προδόμῳ Μενελάου κυδαλίμοιο, 5
 ἧ τοι Νεστορίδην μαλακῷ δεδμημένον ὕπνῳ.
 Τηλέμαχον δ' οὐχ ὕπνος ἔχε γλυκὺς, ἀλλ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ
 νύκτα δι' ἀμβροσίην μελεδήματα πατρὸς ἔγειρεν.
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἵσταμένη προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 "Τηλέμαχ', οὐκέτι καλὰ δόμων ἀποτῆλ' ὑλάλησαι, 10
 κτήματά τε προλιπὼν ἄνδρας τ' ἐν σοῖσι δόμοισιν
 οὔτω ὑπερφιάλους· μή τοι κατὰ πάντα φάγῃσι
 κτήματα δασσάμενοι, σὺ δὲ τηϋσίην ὁδὸν ἔλθῃς.
 ἀλλ' ὀτρυνε τάχιστα βοὴν ὑγαθὸν Μενέλαον
 πεμπέμεν, ὅφρ' ἔτι οἴκοι ἀμύμονα μητέρα τέτμῃς. 15
 ἦδη γάρ ῥα πατὴρ τε κασιγνήτοί τε κέλονται
 Εὐρυμάχῳ γήμασθαι· ὁ γὰρ περιβάλλει ἅπαντας
 μνηστῆρας δώροισι καὶ ἐξώφειλλεν ἔεδνα·
 μή νύ τι σεῦ ἀέκητι δόμων ἐκ κτήμα φέρηται.¹
 οἶσθα γὰρ οἷος θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι γυναικὸς· 20
 κείνου βούλεται οἶκον ὀφέλλειν ὅς κεν ὀπυίῃ,
 παίδων δὲ προτέρων καὶ κουριδίῳ φίλῳ

¹ Line 19 was rejected by Aristarchus.

BOOK XV

BUT Pallas Athene went to spacious Lacedaemon to remind the glorious son of great-hearted Odysseus of his return, and to hasten his coming. She found Telemachus and the noble son of Nestor lying in the fore-hall of the palace, of glorious Menelaus. Now Nestor's son was overcome with soft sleep, but sweet sleep did not hold Telemachus, but all through the immortal night anxious thoughts for his father kept him wakeful. And flashing-eyed Athene stood near him, and said :

"Telemachus, thou dost not well to wander longer far from thy home, leaving behind thee thy wealth and men in thy house so insolent, lest they divide and devour all thy possessions, and thou shalt have gone on a fruitless journey. Nay, rouse with all speed Menelaus, good at the war-cry, to send thee on thy way, that thou mayest find thy noble mother still in her home. For now her father and her brothers bid her wed Eurymachus, for he surpasses all the wooers in his presents, and has increased his gifts of wooing. Beware lest she carry forth from thy halls some treasure against thy will. For thou knowest what sort of a spirit there is in a woman's breast ; she is fain to increase the house of the man who weds her, but of her former children and of the lord of her youth she takes no thought, when once he

οὐκέτι μέμνηται τεθνηότος οὐδὲ μεταλλῆ.
 ἀλλὰ σύ γ' ἔλθων αὐτὸς ἐπιτρέψειας ἕκαστα
 δμῶάων ἢ τίς τοι ἀρίστη φαίνεται εἶναι, 25
 εἰς ὃ κέ τοι φήνωσι θεοὶ κυδρὴν παρῴκοιτιν.
 ἄλλο δέ τοι τι ἔπος ἐρίω, σὺ δὲ σύνθεο θυμῷ.
 μνηστήρων σ' ἐπιτηδὲς ἀριστῆες λοχῶσιν
 ἐν πορθμῷ Ἰθάκης τε Σάμοιό τε παιπαλοέσσης, 30
 ἰέμενοι κτεῖναι, πρὶν πατρίδα γαῖαν ἰκέσθαι.
 ἀλλὰ τὰ γ' οὐκ ὄλω· πρὶν καὶ τινα γαῖα καθέξει
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων, οἳ τοι βίοντον κατέδουσιν.
 ἀλλὰ ἕκας νήσων ἀπέχειν εὐεργέα νῆα,
 νυκτὶ δ' ὁμῶς πλείειν· πέμψει δέ τοι οὐρον ὀπισθεν
 ἀθανάτων ὃς τίς σε φυλάσσει τε ρύεται τε. 35
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν πρῶτην ἀκτὴν Ἰθάκης ἀφίκηαι,
 νῆα μὲν ἐς πόλιν ὀτρύναι καὶ πάντας ἑταίρους,
 αὐτὸς δὲ πρῶτιστα συβώτην εἰσαφικέσθαι,
 ὃς τοι ὕψιν ἐπίουρος, ὁμῶς δέ τοι ἤπια οἶδεν.
 ἐνθα δὲ νύκτ' ἀΐσαι· τὸν δ' ὀτρύναι πόλιν εἴσω 40
 ἀγγελίην ἐρέοντα περίφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ,
 οὐνεκά οἱ σῶς ἔσσι καὶ ἐκ Πύλου εἰληλούθας."

Ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς εἰποῦσ' ἀπέβη πρὸς μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,
 αὐτὰρ ὁ Νεστορίδην ἐξ ἡδέος ὕπνου ἐγειρεν
 λάξ ποδὶ κινήσας, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·¹ 45

"Ἐγρεο, Νεστορίδη Πεισίστρατε, μῶνυχας ἵππους
 ζευξὸν ὑφ' ἄρματ' ἄγων, ὅφρα πρήσσωμεν ὁδοῖο."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Νεστορίδης Πεισίστρατος ἀντίον ἠΐδα·
 "Τηλέμαχ', οὗ πῶς ἔστιν ἐπείγομένους περ ὁδοῖο

¹ Line 45 (cf. *Iliad* x. 153) was rejected by Aristarchus.

is dead, and asks no longer concerning them. Nay, go, and thyself put all thy possessions in the charge of whatsoever one of the handmaids seems to thee the best, until the gods shall show thee a noble bride. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to heart. The best men of the wooers lie in wait for thee of set purpose in the strait between Ithaca and rugged Samos, eager to slay thee before thou comest to thy native land. But methinks this shall not be; ere that shall the earth cover many a one of the wooers that devour thy substance. But do thou keep thy well-built ship far from the islands, and sail by night as well as by day, and that one of the immortals, who keeps and guards thee, will send a fair breeze in thy wake. But when thou hast reached the nearest shore of Ithaca, send thy ship and all thy comrades on to the city, but thyself go first of all to the swineherd who keeps thy swine, and withal has a kindly heart toward thee. There do thou spend the night, and bid him to go to the city to bear word to wise Penelope that she has thee safe, and thou art come from Pylos."

So saying, she departed to high Olympus. But Telemachus woke the son of Nestor out of sweet asleep, rousing him with a touch of his heel, and spoke to him, saying:

"Awake, Peisistratus, son of Nestor; bring up thy fiery-hoofed¹ horses, and yoke them beneath the car, that we may speed on our way."

Then Peisistratus, son of Nestor, answered, and said: "Telemachus, in no wise may we drive through

¹ The word is obscure but is now generally connected with the root *ps*, "be eager." The old etymology (*psdros* + *pswt*) is untenable, but the meaning "solid-hoofed" is still preferred by some.

νύκτα διὰ δυοφερὴν ἐλάαν· τάχα δ' ἔσσεται ἡώς. 50
 ἀλλὰ μὲν εἰς ὃ κε δῶρα φέρων ἐπιδίφρια θῆῃ
 ἦρως Ἀτρεΐδης, δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος,
 καὶ μύθοις ἀγανοῖσι παραυδήσας ἀποπέμψῃ.
 τοῦ γάρ τε ξεῖνος μεμνήσκειται ἤματα πάντα
 ἀνδρὸς ξεινοδόκου, ὃς κεν φιλότῃτα παρ᾽ ἄσχη." 55

"Ὡς ἔφατ', αὐτίκα δὲ χρυσόθρονος ἤλυθεν Ἥώς.
 ἀγχιμόλον δέ σφ' ἤλθε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος,
 ἀνστὰς ἐξ εὐνῆς, Ἑλένης πάρα καλλικόμοιο.
 τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησεν Ὀδυσσεύς ἑ φίλος υἱός,
 σπερχόμενός ῥα χιτῶνα περὶ χροῖ σιγαλόεντα 60
 δύνειν, καὶ μέγα φᾶρος ἐπὶ στιβαροῖς βάλετ' ὥμοις
 ἦρως, βῆ δὲ θύραζε, παριστάμενος δὲ προσηύδα
 Τηλέμαχος, φίλος υἱὸς Ὀδυσσέος θεῖοιο.¹

"Ἀτρεΐδῃ Μενέλαε διοτρεφέι, ὄρχαμε λαῶν,
 ἤδη νῦν μ' ἀπόπεμπε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν· 65
 ἤδη γάρ μοι θυμὸς ἐέλδεται οἴκαδ' ἰκέσθαι."

Τὸν δ' ἡμίβητ' ἔπειτα βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος·
 "Τηλέμαχ', οὐ τί σ' ἐγὼ γε πολὺν χρόνον ἐνθάδ' ἐρύξω
 ἰέμενον νόστοιο· νεμεσσῶμαι δὲ καὶ ἄλλω
 ἀνδρὶ ξεινοδόκῳ, ὃς κ' ἔξοχα μὲν φιλέησιν, 70
 ἔξοχα δ' ἐχθαίρῃσιν· ἀμείνω δ' αἰσιμα πάντα.
 ἴσόν τοι κακὸν ἐσθ', ὃς τ' οὐκ ἐθέλοντα νέεσθαι
 ξεῖνον ἐποτρύνει καὶ ὃς ἐσσύμενον κατερύκει.
 χρὴ ξεῖνον παρεόντα φιλεῖν, ἐθέλοντα δὲ πέμπειν.²
 ἀλλὰ μὲν εἰς ὃ κε δῶρα φέρων ἐπιδίφρια θείω 75
 καλὰ, σὺ δ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἴδῃς, εἴπω δὲ γυναιξὶ
 δεῖπνον ἐνὶ μεγάροις τετυκεῖν ἅλις ἔνδον ἰόντων.
 ἀμφότερον, κῦδος τε καὶ ἀγλαΐη καὶ ὄνειαρ,
 δειπνήσαντας ἵμεν πολλὴν ἐπ' ἀπείρονα γαίαν.

¹ Line 63 is omitted in many MSS.

² Line 74 was omitted in many ancient editions.

the dark night, how eager soever for our journey; and soon it will be dawn. Wait then, until the warrior son of Atreus, Menelaus, famed for his spear, shall bring gifts and set them on the car, and shall send us on our way with kindly words of farewell. For a guest remembers all his days the host who shews him kindness."

So he spoke, and presently came golden-throned Dawn. Up to them then came Menelaus, good at the war-cry, rising from his couch from beside fair-tressed Helen. And when the prince, the dear son of Odysseus, saw him, he made haste to put about him his bright tunic, and to fling over his mighty shoulders a great cloak, and went forth. Then Telemachus, the dear son of divine Odysseus, came up to Menelaus, and addressed him, saying:

"Menelaus, son of Atreus, fostered of Zeus, leader of hosts, send me back now at length to my dear native land, for now my heart is eager to return home."

Then Menelaus, good at the war-cry, answered him: "Telemachus, I verily shall not hold thee here a long time, when thou art eager to return. Nay, I should blame another, who, as host, loves overmuch or hates overmuch; better is due measure in all things. 'Tis equal wrong if a man speed on a guest who is loath to go, and if he keep back one that is eager to be gone. One should make welcome the present guest, and send forth him that would go. But stay, till I bring fair gifts and put them on thy car, and thine own eyes behold them, and till I bid the women make ready a meal in the halls of the abundant store that is within. It is a double boon—honour and glory it brings, and profit withal—that the traveller should dine before he goes forth over the wide and

εἰ δ' ἐθέλεις τραφῆναι ἀν' Ἑλλάδα καὶ μέσον Ἄργος, 80
 ὄφρα τοι αὐτὸς ἔπωμαι, ὑποζεύξω δέ τοι ἵππους,
 ἄστεα δ' ἀνθρώπων ἡγήσομαι· οὐδέ τις ἡμέας
 αὐτῶς ἀππέμψει, δώσει δέ τι ἐν γε φέρεσθαι,
 ἢ τίνα τριπόδων εὐχάλκων ἢ λεβήτων,
 ἢ δὴ ἡμόδους ἢ χρύσειον ἄλειςον." 1

83

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 "Ἄτρεϊδῃ Μενέλαε διοτρεφές, ὄρχαμε λαῶν,
 βούλομαι ἤδη νείσθαι ἐφ' ἡμέτερ'· οὐ γὰρ ὀπισθεν
 οὔρον ἰὼν κατέλειπον ἐπὶ κτεάτεσσιν ἐμοῖσιν·
 μὴ πατέρ' ἀντίθεον διζήμενος αὐτὸς ὀλωμαι,
 ἢ τί μοι ἐκ μεγάρων κειμήλιον ἐσθλὸν ὀλῆται." 90

Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τό γ' ἄκουσε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος,
 αὐτίκ' ἄρ' ἢ ἀλόχῳ ἠδὲ δμοῖσι κέλευσε
 δεῖπνον ἐνὶ μεγάροις τετυκεῖν ἄλις ἐνδον ἐόντων.
 ἀγχιμόλον δέ οἱ ἦλθε Βοηθόδωρ Ἑτωναῖός, 95
 ἀνστὰς ἐξ εἰνῆς, ἐπεὶ οὐ πολὺ ναῖεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ·
 τὸν πῦρ κῆαι ἄνωγε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος
 ὀπτήσας τε κρεῶν· ὁ δ' ἄρ' οὐκ ἀπίθσεν ἀκούσας,
 αὐτὸς δ' ἐς θόλαμον κατεβήσето κηῶντα,
 οὐκ οἶος, ἅμα τῷ γ' Ἑλένῃ κίε καὶ Μεγαπένθῃς. 100
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ β' ἱκανὸν ὄθι κειμήλια κείμενα,
 Ἄτρεϊδῃς μὲν ἔπειτα δέπας λύβεν ἀμφικύπελλον,
 υἱὸν δὲ κρητῆρα φέρειν Μεγαπένθε' ἄνωγεν
 ἀργύρεον Ἑλένῃ δὲ παρίστατο φωριαμοῖσιν,
 ἐνθ' ἔσαν οἱ πέπλοι παμποίκιλοι, οὗς κάμεν αὐτῇ. 105
 τῶν ἐν' ἀειραμένη Ἑλένῃ φέρε, δῖα γυναικῶν,
 ὃς κάλλιστος ἦν ποικίλμασιν ἠδὲ μέγιστος,

¹ Lines 78-83 were rejected by Aristarchus.

boundless earth. And if thou art fain to journey through Hellas and mid-Argos, be it so, to the end that I may myself go with thee, and I will yoke for thee horses, and lead thee to the cities of men. Nor will any one send us away empty-handed, but will give us some one thing at least to bear with us, a fair brazen tripod or cauldron, or a pair of mules, or a golden cup."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Menelaus, son of Atreus, fostered of Zeus, leader of hosts, rather would I go at once to my home, for when I departed I left behind me no one to watch over my possessions. I would not that in seeking for my god-like father I myself should perish, or some goodly treasure be lost from my halls."

Now when Menelaus, good at the war-cry, heard this, he straightway bade his wife and her handmaids make ready a meal in the halls of the abundant store that was within. Up to him then came Eteoneus, son of Boethoüs, just risen from his bed, for he dwelt not far from him. Him Menelaus, good at the war-cry, bade kindle a fire and roast of the flesh; and he heard, and obeyed. And Menelaus himself went down to his vaulted¹ treasure-chamber, not alone, for with him went Helen and Megapenthes. But when they came to the place where his treasures were stored, the son of Atreus took a two-handled cup, and bade his son Megapenthes bear a mixing bowl of silver. And Helen came up to the chests in which were her richly-broidered robes, that she herself had wrought. One of these Helen, the beautiful lady, lifted out and bore away, the one that was

¹ Possibly "fragrant."

ἀσπὴρ δ' ὡς ἀπέλαμπεν ἔκειτο δὲ πλείστος ἄλλων.

βὰν δ' ἵεναι προτέρω διὰ δώματος, ἦος ἵκοντο

Τηλέμαχον τὸν δὲ προσέφη ξανθὸς Μενέλαος·

110

“Τηλέμαχ', ἦ τοι νόστον, ὅπως φρεσὶ σῆσι μενοινῆς,

ὥς τοι Ζεὺς τελέσειεν, ἐργῶδ' ὅπως πόσις Ἥρης.

δώρων δ', ὅσσ' ἐν ἐμῷ οἴκῳ κειμήλια κεῖται,

δώσω δὲ κάλλιστον καὶ τιμηέστατόν ἐστι.

δώσω τοι κρητῆρα τετυγμένον· ἀργύρεος δὲ

115

ἐστὶν ἄπας, χρυσοῦ δ' ἐπὶ χεῖλεα κεκράνται,

ἔργον δ' Ἡφαίστοιο· πόρην δὲ ἐ Φαίδιμος ἦρως,

Σιδονίων βασιλεὺς, ὅθ' ἐὼς ἑόμος ἀμφεκάλυψε

κεῖσέ με νοστήσαντα· τεινὸν δ' ἐθέλω τόδ' ὀπάσσαι.”¹

“Ὡς εἰπὼν ἐν χειρὶ τίθει δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον

120

ἦρως Ἀτρεΐδης· ὁ δ' ἄρα κρητῆρα φαινὸν

θῆκε· αὐτοῦ προσπάρουθε φέρων κρατερὸς Μεγαπένθης,

ἀργύρεον Ἑλλήνη δὲ παρίστατο καλλιπάρης

πέπλον ἔχουσ' ἐν χερσίν, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

“Δῶρόν τοι καὶ ἐγὼ, τέκνον φίλε, τοῦτο δίδωμι,

125

μυῆμ' Ἑλένης χειρῶν, πολυηράτου ἐς γάμου ὥρην,

σὴ ἀλόχῳ φορέειν· τῆος δὲ φίλῃ παρὰ μητρὶ

· κείσθω ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ, σὺ δὲ μοι χαίρων ἀφίκοιο

οἶκον εὐκτίμενον καὶ σὴν ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.”

“Ὡς εἰποῦς ἐν χερσὶ τίθει, ὁ δ' ἐδέξατο χαίρων.

130

καὶ τὰ μὲν ἐς πείρινθα τίθει Πεισίστρατος ἦρως

δεξάμενος, καὶ πάντα ἐφ' ἠθήσατο θυμῷ·

τοὺς δ' ἦγε πρὸς δῶμα κάρη ξανθὸς Μενέλαος.

¹ Lines 113-9 (= iv. 613-9) are omitted in some MSS.

fairest in its broideries, and the amplest. It shone like a star, and lay beneath all the rest. Then they went forth through the house until they came to Telemachus; and fair-haired Menelaus spoke to him, and said:

"Telemachus, may Zeus, the loud-thundering lord of Here, verily bring to pass for thee thy return, even as thy heart desires. And of all the gifts that lie stored as treasures in my house, I will give thee that one which is fairest and costliest. I will give thee a well-wrought mixing-bowl. It is all of silver, and with gold are the rims thereof gilded, the work of Hephaestus; and the warrior Phaedimus, king of the Sidonians, gave it me, when his house sheltered me as I came thither; and now I am minded to give it to thee."

So saying, the warrior, son of Atreus, placed the two-handled cup in his hands. And the strong Megapenthes brought the bright mixing-bowl of silver and set it before him, and fair-cheeked Helen came up with the robe in her hands, and spoke, and addressed him:

"Lo, I too give thee this gift, dear child, a remembrance of the hands of Helen, against the day of thy longed-for marriage, for thy bride to wear it. But until then let it lie in thy halls in the keeping of thy dear mother. And for thyself I wish that with joy thou mayest reach thy well-built house and thy native land."

So saying, she placed it in his hands, and he took it gladly. And the prince Peleistratus took the gifts, and laid them in the box of the chariot, and gazed at them all wondering in his heart. Then fair-haired Menelaus led them to the house, and the two sat down

ἰξέσθην δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα κατὰ κλισμούς τε θρόνους τε.
 χέρνιβα δ' ἀμφίπολος προχόφ' ἐπέχευε φέρουσα 135
 καλῇ χρυσείῃ, ὑπὲρ ἀργυρέοιο λέβητος,
 νύψασθαι· παρὰ δὲ ξεστὴν ἐτάνυσσε τράπεζαν.
 σίτον δ' αἰδοίῃ ταμὴ παρέθηκε φέρουσα·
 εἶδατα πόλλ' ἐπιθεῖσα, χαριζομένη παρεόντων·¹
 πὰρ δὲ Βοηθοῖδης κρέα δαίετο καὶ νέμε μοῖρος· 140
 οἰνοχόει δ' υἱὸς Μειντιάδου κυθαλίμαιο.
 οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον,
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,
 δὴ τότε Τηλέμαχος καὶ Νέστορος ἠγλαὸς υἱὸς
 ἵππους τε ζεύγνυντ' ἀνὰ θ' ἄρματα ποικίλ' ἔβαινον, 145
 ἐκ δ' ἔλασαν προθύροιο καὶ αἰθούσης ἱριδούπου.
 τοὺς δὲ μετ' Ἀτρεΐδης ἔκισ ξανθὸς Μενέλαος,
 οἶνον ἔχων ἐν χειρὶ μελίφρονα δεξιτερῇφι,
 ἐν δέπαϊ χρυσέῃ, δῖφρα λείψαντε κιοίτην.
 στή δ' ἵππων προπαρόιθε, δεδισκόμενος δὲ προσηύδα·
 "Χαίρετον, ὦ κούρω, καὶ Νέστορι ποιμένι λαῶν 151
 εἰπεῖν· ἥ γὰρ ἔμοι γε πατὴρ ὥς ἦπιος ἦεν,
 ἦος ἐνὶ Τροίῃ πολεμίζομεν υἱεὶ Ἀχαιῶν."
 Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα·
 "Καὶ λήν κείνῃ γε, διατρεφές, ὡς ἀγορεύεις, 155
 πάντα τάδ' ἐλθόντες καταλέξομεν· αἱ γὰρ ἐγὼν ὡς
 νοστήσας Ἰθάκῃνδε, κίχων Ὀδυσῆ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 εἶποιμ' ὡς παρὰ σεῖο τυχὼν φιλότῃτος ἀπάσης
 ἔρχομαι, αὐτὰρ ἄγω κειμήλια πολλὰ καὶ ἐσθλά."
 "Ὡς ἄρα οἱ εἰπόντι ἐπέπτατο δεξιὸς ὄρνις, 160
 αἰετὸς ἀργὴν χῆνα φέρων ὀνύχεσσι πέλῳρον,

¹ Line 139 is omitted in most MSS.

on chairs and high seats. And a handmaid brought water for the hands in a fair pitcher of gold, and poured it over a silver basin for them to wash, and beside them drew up a polished table. And the grave housewife brought and set before them bread, and therewith meats in abundance, granting freely of her store. And hard by the son of Boetholls carved the meat, and divided the portions, and the son of glorious Menelaus poured the wine. So they put forth their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, then Telemachus and the glorious son of Nestor yoked the horses and mounted the inland car, and drove forth from the gateway and the echoing portico. After them went the son of Atreus, fair-haired Menelaus, bearing in his right hand honey-hearted wine in a cup of gold, that they might pour libations ere they set out. And he took his stand before the horses, and pledged the youths, and said :

"Fare ye well, young men, and bear greeting to Nestor, shepherd of the host, for verily he was kind as a father to me, while we sons of the Achaeans warred in the land of Troy."

Then wise Telemachus answered him : "Aye, verily, king, fostered of Zeus, to him will we tell all this on our coming, as thou dost bid. And I would that, when I return to Ithaca, I might as surely find Odysseus in his house, to tell him how I met with every kindness at thy hands, ere I departed and bring with me treasures many and goodly."

Even as he spoke a bird flew by on the right, an eagle, bearing in his talons a great, white goose, a

ἡμερον ἐξ αὐλῆς· οἱ δ' ἰθὺντες ἔποντο
 ἄνδρες ἠδὲ γυναῖκες· ὁ δὲ σφισιν ἐγγύθεν ἔλθων
 δεξιὸς ἤϊξε πρόσθ' ἵππων· οἱ δὲ ἰδόντες
 γήθησαν· καὶ πᾶσιν ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θυμὸς ἰάνθη.
 τοῖσι δὲ Νεστορίδης Πεισίστρατος ἤρχετο μύθων·

165

“Φράζσο δὴ, Μενέλαε διιοτρεφές, ὄρχαμε λαῶν,
 ἢ νῶϊν τόδ' ἔφηνε θεὸς τέρας ἦε σοὶ αὐτῷ.”

“Ὡς φάτο, μερμήριξε δ' ἀρητίφίλος Μενέλαος,
 ὅπως οἱ κατὰ μοῖραν ὑποκρίναιτο νοήσας.
 τὸν δ' Ἑλένη τανύπεπλος ὑποφθαμένη φάτο μῦθον·

170

“Κλυτὲ μὲν αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ μαντεύσομαι, ὥς ἐνὶ θυμῷ
 ἀθάνατοι βάλλουσι καὶ ὥς τελείεσθαι ὀέω.

ὥς ὅδε χῆν' ἤρπαξ' ἀτιταλλομένην ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
 ἔλθων ἐξ ὄρεος, ὅθι οἱ γενεὴ τε τόκος τε,
 ὥς Ὀδυσσεὺς κακὰ πολλὰ παθῶν καὶ πόλλ' ἐπαληθείς
 οἴκαδε νοστήσει καὶ τίσεται· ἦε καὶ ἤδη
 οἴκοι, ἀτὰρ μνηστῆρσι κακὸν πάντεσσι φυτεύει.”

175

Τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 “Οὔτω νῦν Ζεὺς θεΐη, ἐρίγδουπος πόσις Ἥρης·
 τῷ κέν τοι καὶ κεῖθι θεῷ ὥς εὐχетоφύμην.”

180

Ἥ καὶ ἐφ' ἵπποισιν μάστιν βάλεν· οἱ δὲ μάλ' ὦκα
 ἤϊξαν πεδίονδε διὰ πτόλιος μεμαῶτες.

οἱ δὲ πανημέριοι σείον ζυγὸν ἀμφὶς ἔχοντες.
 δύσετό τ' ἥελιος σκιδωντό τε πᾶσαι ἀγυιαί·
 ἐς Φηράς δ' ἴκοντο Διοκλῆος ποτὶ δῶμα,
 υἱὸς Ὀρτυλόχοιο, τὸν Ἀλφειδὸς τέκε παῖδα.
 ἔνθα δὲ νύκτ' ἄεσαν, ὁ δὲ τοῖς πὰρ ξείνια θῆκεν.

185

tame fowl from the yard, and men and women followed shouting. But the eagle drew near to them, and darted off to the right in front of the horses; and they were glad as they saw it, and the hearts in the breasts of all were cheered. And among them Peisistratus, son of Nestor, was first to speak:

"Consider, Menelaus, fostered of Zeus, leader of hosts, whether it was for us two that the god showed this sign, or for thyself."

So he spoke, and Menelaus, dear to Ares, pondered how he might with understanding interpret the sign aright. But long-robed Helen took the word from him, and said:

"Hear me, and I will prophesy as the immortals put it into my heart, and as I think it will be brought to pass. Even as this eagle came from the mountain, where are his kin, and where he was born, and snatched up the goose that was bred in the house, even so shall Odysseus return to his home after many toils and many wanderings, and shall take vengeance; or even now he is at home, and is sowing the seeds of evil for all the wooers."

Then again wise Telemachus answered her: "So may Zeus grant, the loud-thundering lord of Here; then will I even there ever pray to thee, as to a god."

He spoke, and touched the two horses with the lash, and they sped swiftly toward the plain, coursing eagerly through the city. So all day long they shook the yoke they bore about their necks. And the sun set, and all the ways grew dark. And they came to Pherae, to the house of Diocles, son of Ortilochus, whom Alpheus begot. There they spent the night, and before them he set the entertainment due to strangers.

Ἦμος δ' ἠριγένεια φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,
 ἵππους τε ζεύγυντ' ἀνά θ' ἄρματα ποικίλ' ἔβαινον, 190
 ἐκ δ' ἔλασαν προθύροιο καὶ αἰθούσης ἐριδούπου·
 μᾶστιξεν δ' ἔλααν, τὼ δ' οὐκ ἄκοντε πετέσθην.
 αἶψα δ' ἔπειθ' ἴκοντο Πύλου αἰπὺ πτολίεθρον·
 καὶ τότε Τηλέμαχος προσεφώνεε Νέστορος υἱόν·

“ Νεστορίδῃ, πῶς κέν μοι ὑποσχόμενος τελέσειας . 195
 μῦθον ἐμόν; ξεῖνοι δὲ διαμπερές εὐχόμεθ' εἶναι
 ἐκ πατέρων φιλότῃτος, ἀτὰρ καὶ ὁμήλικές εἰμεν·
 ἦδε δ' ὁδὸς καὶ μᾶλλον ὁμοφροσύνῃσιν ἐνήσει.
 μή με παρέξ ἄγε νῆα, διοτρεφές, ἀλλὰ λίπ' αὐτοῦ,
 μή μ' ὁ γέρων ἀέκοντα κατὰσχη ὅ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ 200
 ἰέμενος φιλλέειν· ἐμὲ δὲ χρεὼ θάσσον ἰκίσθαι.”

ὣς φάτο, Νεστορίδης δ' ἄρ' ἐφ' συμφράσσατο θυμῷ,
 ὅπως οἱ κατὰ μοῖραν ὑποσχόμενος τελέσειεν.
 ὦδε δὲ οἱ φρονέοντι δοῖσσαντο κέρδιον εἶναι·
 στρέψ' ἵππους ἐπὶ νῆα βοὴν καὶ θῖνα θαλάσσης, 205
 νηὶ δ' ἐνὶ πρύμνῃ ἑξαίνυτο κάλλιμα δῶρο,
 ἱσθῆτα χρυσόν τε, τὰ οἱ Μενέλαος ἔδωκε·
 καί μιν ἐποτρύνων ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“ Σπουδῇ νῦν ἀνάβαινε κέλευέ τε πάντας ἐταῖρους,
 πρὶν ἐμὲ οἴκαδ' ἰκίσθαι ὑπαγγεῖλαι τε γέροντι, 210
 εὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ τόδε οἶδα κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν·
 οἷος κείνου θυμὸς ὑπέρβιος, οὐ σε μεθήσει,
 ἀλλ' αὐτὸς καλέων δεῦρ' εἴσεται, οὐδέ ἔφημι
 ἂψ ἰέναι κενεόν· μάλα γὰρ κεχολώσεται ἔμπης.”

As soon as early Dawn appeared, the rosy-fingered, they yoked the horses, and mounted the inlaid car, and drove forth from the gateway and the echoing portico. Then Peisistratus touched the horses with the whip to start them, and nothing loath the pair sped onward, and soon thereafter they reached the steep citadel of Pylos. Then Telemachus spoke to the son of Nestor, saying:

"Son of Nestor, wilt thou now make me a promise, and fulfil it, as I bid? Friends from of old we call ourselves by reason of our fathers' friendship, and we are moreover of the same age, and this journey shall yet more stablish us in oneness of heart. Lead me not past my ship, O thou fostered of Zeus, but leave me there, lest that old man keep me in his house against my will, fain to show me kindness, whereas I must needs hasten home."

So he spoke, and the son of Nestor took counsel with his heart, how he might duly give the promise and fulfil it. And, as he pondered, this seemed to him the better course. He turned his horses to the swift ship and the shore of the sea, and took out, and set in the stern of the ship the beautiful gifts, the raiment and gold, which Menelaus gave him. And he urged on Telemachus, and addressed him with winged words:

"Make haste now to go on board, and bid all thy comrades to do likewise, before I reach home and bring the old man word. For well I know this in mind and heart, so masterful is his spirit he will not let thee go, but will himself come hither to bid thee to his house; and, I tell thee, he will not go back without thee; for very wroth will he be, despite of all."

ὣς ἄρα φωνήσας ἔλασεν καλλίτριχας ἵππους 215
ἅψ Πυλίων εἰς ἄστυ, θεῶς δ' ἄρα δώμαθ' ἵκανε.

Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐτάροισιν ἐποτρύνων ἐκέλευσεν

“Ἐγκοσμεῖτε τὰ τεύχε', ἱταῖροι, νηὶ μελαίνῃ,
αὐτοὶ τ' ἄμβαινόμεν, ἵνα πρήσσωμεν ὁδοῖο.”

ὣς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἄρα τοῦ μάλα μὲν κλύον ἢ δ' ἐπὶ θόοντο,
αἶψα δ' ἄρ' εἰσβαῖνον καὶ ἐπὶ κληῖσι καθίζον. 221

Ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν τὰ ποιεῖτο καὶ εὖχετο; θύε δ' Ἀθήνη
νηὶ πύρα πρύμνῃ· σχεδόνθεν δέ οἱ ἤλυθεν ἀνὴρ
τηλεδαπός, φεύγων ἐξ Ἀργεος ἀνδρα κατακτάς,
μάντις· ἀτὰρ γενεήν γε Μελάμποδος ἱκτονος ἦεν, 225

ὃς πρὶν μὲν ποτ' ἔταιε Πύλῳ ἔνι, μητέρι μῆλων,
ἄφνειός Πυλλοῖσι μέγ' ἔξοχα δώματα ναίων·

δὴ τότε γ' ἄλλων δῆμον ἀφίκετο, πατρίδα φεύγων
Νηλέα τε μεγάλθυμον, ἀγαυότατον ζώντων,

ὃς οἱ χρήματα πολλὰ τελεσφόρον εἰς ἐνιαυτὸν 230
εἶχε βίῃ· ὁ δὲ τῆος ἐνὶ μεγάροις Φυλάκιοι

δεσμῷ ἐν ἀργαλέῳ δέδετο, κρατέρ' ἄλγεα πάσχων
εἵνεκα Νηληῖος κούρης ἄτης τε βαρείης,

τήν οἱ ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε θεὰ δασυπλήτης Ἐρινύς.
ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐκφυγε κῆρα καὶ ἤλασε βοῦς ἐριμύκους 235

εἰς Πύλον ἐκ Φυλάκης καὶ ἐτίσατο ἔργον ἀεικὲς
ἀντίθεον Νηληῖα, κασιγνήτῳ δὲ γυναῖκα

¹ Neleus, son of Poseidon, had a daughter, Pero, fair above all women. He declared that he would give her in marriage to no one but to him who should bring from Phylas the king of Iphiclus. Melampus undertook the task on behalf of his brother, Bias, but was captured and imprisoned for a year by Iphiclus. During this time Neleus seized and held the goods

So saying, he drove his horses, with beautiful mane back to the city of the Pylians, and speedily reached the palace. And Telemachus called to his men, and gave command to them, saying:

"Set all the gear in order, men, in the black ship, and let us go on board ourselves, that we may speed on our way."

So he spoke, and they readily hearkened and obeyed; and at once they went on board, and sat down upon the benches.

He verily was busied thus, and was praying and offering sacrifice to Athene by the stern of the ship, when there drew nigh to him a man from a far land, one that was fleeing out of Argos because he had slain a man; and he was a seer. By lineage he was sprung from Melampus, who of old dwelt in Pylos, mother of flocks, a rich man and one that had a very wealthy house among the Pylians, but had afterward come to a land of strangers, fleeing from his country and from great-hearted Neleus, the lordliest of living men, who for a full year had kept much wealth from him by force.¹ Now Melampus meanwhile lay bound with bitter bonds in the halls of Phylaceus, suffering grievous pains because of the daughter of Neleus, and the terrible blindness of heart which the goddess, the Erinyes, who brings houses to ruin,² had laid upon him. Howbeit he escaped his fate, and drove off the deep-lowing kine from Phylace to Pylos, and avenged the cruel deed upon godlike Neleus, and brought the maiden

of Melampus. The latter, however, won his freedom through his skill as a diviner, and drove off the kine to Pylos. He then avenged himself on Neleus, and gave Pero to be the bride of Bina. See xl. 287-97.

¹ Others render "who smites heavily."

ἡγάγετο πρὸς δῶμαθ'. ὁ δ' ἄλλων ἵκετο δῆμον,
 "Ἄργος ἐς ἱππόβοτον· τόθι γάρ νύ αἱ αἴσιμον ἦεν
 ναιέμεναι πολλοῖσιν ἀνάσσοντ' Ἀργελοῖσιν. 240

ἔνθα δ' ἔγημε γυναῖκα καὶ ἰψερεφές θέτο δῶμα,
 γείνατο δ' Ἀντιφάτην καὶ Μάντιον, υἱὲ κραταῖω.
 Ἀντιφάτης μὲν ἔτικτεν Ὀϊκλήα μεγάλθυμον,
 αὐτὰρ Ὀϊκλείης λαοσσόον Ἀμφιάραον,
 ὃν περὶ κῆρι φίλει Ζεὺς τ' αἰγλόχος καὶ Ἀπόλλων 245
 παντοίην φιλότῃ· οὐδ' ἵκετο γήραος οὐδὲν,
 ἀλλ' ὄλετ' ἐν Θήβῃσι γυναιῶν εἵνεκα δῶρων.
 τοῦ δ' υἱεὶς ἐγένοντ' Ἀλκμαίων Ἀμφίλοχός τε.
 Μάντιος αὖ τέκετο Πολυφειδέα τε Κλειτόν τε·
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι Κλειτόν χρυσόθρονος ἤρπασεν Ἡὼς 250
 κάλλεος εἵνεκα οἴο, ἵν' ἀθανάτοισι μετείῃ.¹
 αὐτὰρ ὑπέρθυμον Πολυφείδεα μάντιν Ἀπόλλων
 θῆκε βροτῶν ὄχ' ἄριστον, ἐπεὶ θάνεν Ἀμφιάραος·
 δεῦρ' ἔπερρησίνηδ' ἀπενάσσατο πατρὶ χολωθείς,
 ἐνθ' ὃ γε ναιετάων μαντεύετο πᾶσι βροτοῖσιν. 255

Τοῦ μὲν ἄρ' υἱὸς ἐπῆλθε, Θεοκλύμενος δ' ὄνομ' ἦεν,
 δε τότε Τηλεμάχου πέλας ἴστατο· τὸν δ' ἐκίχανεν
 σπένδοντ' εὐχόμενόν τε θοῇ παρὰ νηὶ μελαίνῃ,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

"ὦ φίλ', ἐπεὶ σε θύοντα κιχάνω τῷδ' ἐνὶ χώρῳ, 260
 λίσσομ' ὑπὲρ θνέων καὶ δαίμονος, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα
 σῆς τ' αὐτοῦ κεφαλῆς καὶ ἐταίρων, οἳ τοι ἔπονται,
 εἰπέ μοι εἰρομένην νημερτέα μῆδ' ἐπικεύσῃς·
 τίς πόθεν εἰς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις ἦδὲ τοκῆς;"

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμοχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα· 265

¹ Line 251 was rejected by Aristarchus.

homo to be his own brother's wife. For himself, he went to the land of other men, to horse-pasturing Argos, for there it was appointed him to dwell, bearing away over many Argives. There he wedded a wife and built him a high-roofed house, and begot Antiphates and Mantius, two stalwart sons. Now Antiphates begot great-hearted Oicles, and Oicles Amphiarus, the rouser of the host, whom Zeus, who bears the aegis, and Apollo heartily loved with all manner of love. Yet he did not reach the threshold of old age, but died in Thebe, because of a woman's gifts. To him were born sons, Alcmaeon and Amphiloehus. And Mantios on his part begot Polyphides and Cleitus. Now Cleitus golden-throned Dawn snatched away by reason of his beauty, that he might dwell with the immortals; but of Polyphides, high of heart, Apollo made a seer, far the best of mortals, after that Amphiarus was dead. He removed to Hyperesia, having waxed wroth with his father, and there he dwelt and prophesied to all men.

His son it was, Theoclymenus by name, who now came and stood by Telemachus; and he found him pouring libations and praying by his swift, black ship, and he spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Friend, since I find thee making burnt-offering in this place, I beseech thee by thine offerings and by the god, aye, and by thine own life and the lives of thy comrades who follow thee, tell me truly what I ask, and hide it not. Who art thou among men, and from whence? Where is thy city, and where thy parents?"

And wise Telemachus answered him: "Then

“Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, ξεῖνε, μάλ’ ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω.
 ἐξ Ἰθάκης γένος εἰμί, πατὴρ δέ μοι ἐστὶν Ὀδυσσεύς,
 εἴ ποτ’ ἔην· νῦν δ’ ἤδη ἀπέφθιτο λιγρῷ ὀλέθρῳ.
 τοῦνεκα νῦν ἐτάρους τε λαβὼν καὶ νῆα μέλαιναν
 ἦλθον πευσόμενος πατρὸς δὴν οἰχομένοιο.” 270

Τὸν δ’ αὖτε προσέειπε Θεοκλύμενος θεοειδής·
 “Οὕτω τοι καὶ ἐγὼν ἐκ πατρίδος, ἄνδρα κατακτὰς
 ἔμφυλον πολλοὶ δὲ κασίγνηταί τε ἔται τε
 Ἄργος ἀν’ ἱππόβοτον, μέγα δὲ κρατεύουσιν Ἀχαιῶν.
 τῶν ὑπαλευάμενος θάνατον καὶ κῆρα μέλαιναν 275
 φεύγω, ἐπεὶ νύ μοι αἶσα κατ’ ἀνθρώπους ἀλάλησθαι.
 ἀλλὰ με νηὸς ἔφεσσαι, ἐπεὶ σε φυγὼν ἰκέτευσα,
 μή με κατακτείνωσι· διωκόμεναι γὰρ ὄλω.”

Τὸν δ’ αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα·
 “Οὐ μὲν δὴ σ’ ἐθέλοντά γ’ ἀπώσω νηὸς ἕλσης, 280
 ἀλλ’ ἔπει· αὐτὰρ κεῖθι φιλήσεις, οἷά κ’ ἔχωμεν.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας οἱ ἐδέξατο χάλκειον ἔγχος,
 καὶ τό γ’ ἐπ’ ἱκρίοφιν τάνυσεν νεὸς ἀμφιελίσσης·
 ἀν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς νηὸς ἐβίησέτο ποντοπόροιο.
 ἐν πρύμνῃ δ’ ἄρ’ ἔπειτα καθέζετο, πὰρ δὲ οἱ αὐτῷ 285
 εἶσε Θεοκλύμενον· τοὶ δὲ πρυμνήσι’ ἔλυσαν.
 Τηλέμαχος δ’ ἐτάροισιν ἐποτρύνας ἐκέλευσεν
 δπλων ἅπτεσθαι· τοὶ δ’ ἐσσυμένως ἐπίθοντο.
 ἰστὸν δ’ εἰλάτινον κοίλης ἐντοσθε μεσόδμης
 στήσαν ἀείραντες, κατὰ δὲ προτόνοισιν ἔδθησαν, 290
 ἔλκον δ’ ἰστία λευκὰ εὖστρέπτοισι βοεῦσι.

verily, stranger, will I frankly tell thee all. Of Ithaca I am by birth, and my father is Odysseus, as sure as ever¹ such a one there was; but now he has perished by a pitiful fate. Therefore have I now taken my comrades and a black ship, and am come to seek tidings of my father, that has long been gone."

Then godlike Theoclymenus answered him: "Even so have I, too, fled from my country, for that I slew a man, one of mine own kin. And many brethren and kinsmen of his there are in horse-pasturing Argos, and mightily do they bear away over the Achaeans. It is to shun death and black fate at their hands that I flee, for, I ween, it is my lot to be a wanderer among men. But do thou set me on thy ship, since in my flight I have made prayer to thee, lest they utterly slay me; for methinks they are in pursuit."

And wise Telemachus answered him: "Then will I in no wise thrust thee from my shapely ship, since thou art eager to come. Nay, follow with us, and in our home shalt thou find entertainment such as we have."

So saying, he took from him his spear of bronze, and laid it at length on the deck of the curved ship, and himself went aboard the seafaring ship. Then he sat down in the stern and made Theoclymenus sit down beside him; and his men loosed the stern-cables. And Telemachus called to his men and bade them lay hold of the tackling, and they quickly obeyed. The mast of fir they raised and set in the hollow socket, and made it fast with fore-stays, and hauled up the white sail with twisted thongs of ox-

¹ Others render "if ever"; but it is not here conditional; see Monro.

τοῖσιν δ' ἴκμενον οὔρον ἴει γλονκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
 λάβρον ἐπαιγίζοντα δι' αἰθέρος, ὄφρα τάχιστα
 νηὺς ἀνύσειε θέουσα θαλάσσης ἀλμυρὸν ὕδωρ.
 βὰν δὲ παρὰ Κρουτούς καὶ Χαλκίδα καλλιρέεθρον.¹ 293

Δύσετό τ' ἥελιος σκιάωντό τε πᾶσαι ἀγνυαί·
 ἡ δὲ Φεάς ἐπέβαλλεν ἐπειγομένη Διὸς οὔρῳ
 ἥδ' ἐπ' Ἴλιδα διαν, ὅθι κρατεύουσιν Ἑπείοι.
 ἔνθεν δ' αὖ νήσοισιν ἐπιπροέηκε βοῇσιν,
 ὀρμαίνων ἢ κεν θάνατον φύγοι ἢ κεν ἀλώῃ. 300

Τὼ δ' αὖτ' ἐν κλισίῃ Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ δῖος ὕφορβος
 δορπεῖτην παρὰ δὲ σφιν ἐδόρπεον ἄνδρες ἄλλοι.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,
 τοῖς δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μετίειπε, συμβώτεω περρητίζων,
 ἦ μιν ἔτ' ἐνδυκέως φίλοι μείναι τε κελεύσει 305
 αὐτοῦ ἐνὶ σταθμῷ, ἢ ὀτρύνειε πόλινδε·

" Κέκλυθι νῦν, Εὐμαίε, καὶ ἄλλοι πάντες ἑταῖροι·
 ἠῶθεν προτὶ ἄστυ ληλαίωμαί ἀπονέεσθαι
 πτώχεύσων, ἵνα μὴ σε κατατρίχω καὶ ἑταῖρους. 309
 ἀλλὰ μοι εὖ-θ' ὑπόθεν καὶ ἄμ' ἡγεμόν' ἐσθλὸν ὄπασσον
 ὅς κ' ἐμὲ κείσ' ἀγάγῃ· κατὰ δὲ πτόλιν αὐτὸς ἀνάγκη
 πλάγξομαι, αἶ κέν τις κοτύλῃν καὶ πύρνον ὀρέξῃ.
 καὶ κ' ἐλθὼν πρὸς δώματ' Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο
 ὠγγελίην εἵποιμι περίφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ,
 καὶ κε μνηστῆρεςσιν ὑπερφιάλοισι μγάειν. 315

¹ Line 296 is twice cited by Strabo, but is not found in any MS. of the *Odyssey*.

² No satisfactory explanation of this obscure epithet can be given. It is barely possible that the epithet proper to a ship passing swiftly by the islands has been transferred to

hide. And flashing-eyed Athene sent them a favourable wind, blowing strongly through the sky, that, speeding swiftly, the ship might accomplish her way over the salt water of the sea. So they fared past Crouni and Chaleis, with its beautiful streams.

Now the sun set and all the ways grew dark. And the ship drew near to Pheac, sped by the wind of Zeus, and on past goodly Elis, where the Epeans hold sway. From thence again he steered for the swift isles,¹ pondering whether he should escape death or be taken.

But the two, Odysseus and the goodly swineherd, were supping in the hut, and with them supped the other men. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, Odysseus spoke among them, making trial of the swineherd to see whether he would still entertain him with kindly care and bid him remain there at the farmstead, or send him forth to the city:

"Hearken now, Eumachus, and all ye other men. In the morning I am minded to go forth to the city to beg, that I may not be the ruin of thee and of thy men. Now then, give me good counsel, and send with me a trusty guide to lead me thither; but through the city will I wander by myself perforce, in the hope that one haply will give me a cup of water and a loaf. Aye, and I would go to the house of godlike Odysseus and bear tidings to the wise Penelope, and join the company of the insolent wooers, if perchance they may give me a meal, since

the islands themselves; for this the use of "*oelerrimum*" in Tacitus, *Annals*, iii. 1, is adduced as a parallel. Others follow Strabo in rendering *oelerrimum* by "pointed," connecting the word with the verb *oela* (cf. ix. 327); this, however, is most uncertain.

εἰ μοι δεῖπνον δοῖεν ὄνειατα μυρὶ ἔχοντες.
 αἰψά κεν εὐ δρῶοιμι μετὰ σφίσιν ἄσσο' ἐθέλοιεν.
 ἐκ γάρ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καὶ μεν ἄκουσον·
 Ἑρμείας ἔκητι διακτόρου, ὃς βὰ τε πάντων
 ἀνθρώπων ἐργοῖσι χάριν καὶ κῦδος ἐπάξει, 320
 δρηστοσύνη οὐκ ἂν μοι ἐρίσσειε βροτὸς ἄλλος,
 πῦρ τ' εὐ νηῆσαι διὰ τε ξύλα δανά¹ εἰάσσαι,
 δαιτρεῦσαί τε καὶ ὀπτῆσαι καὶ οἶνοχοῆσαι,
 οἷά τε τοῖς ἀγαθοῖσι παραδρῶσι χέρηες."

Τὸν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη, Εὐμαιε συβῶτα· 325
 "ὦ μοι, ξεῖνε, τίη τοι ἐνὶ φρεσὶ τοῦτο νόημα
 ἔπλετο; ἢ σὺ γε πάγχυ λυαίαι αὐτόθ' ὀλισθαί,
 εἰ δὴ μνηστήρων ἐθέλεις καταδύναι ὄμιλον,
 τῶν ὕβρις τε βίη τε σιδήρεον οὐρανὸν ἵκει.
 οὐ τοι τοιοῖδ' εἰσὶν ὑποδρηστήρες ἐκείνων, 330
 ἀλλὰ νῆοι, χλαῖνας εὖ εἰμένοι ἠδὲ χιτῶνας,
 αἰεὶ δὲ λιπαροὶ κεφαλὰς καὶ καλὰ πρόσωπα,
 οἳ σφιν ὑποδρῶσιν· ἐθξοτοὶ δὲ τράπεζαι
 σίτου καὶ κρειῶν ἠδ' οἴνου βεβρίθασιν.
 ἀλλὰ μέν· οὐ γάρ τις τοι ἀνιάται παριόντι, 335
 οὐτ' ἐγὼ οὔτε τις ἄλλος ἱταίρων, οἳ μοι ἔασιν.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν ἔλθῃσιν Ὀδυσσεύς φίλος υἱός,
 κεῖνός σε χλαῖνιν τε χιτῶνά τε εἴματα ἔσσει,
 πέμψει δ' ὅππῃ σε κραδίη θυμὸς τε κελεύει."

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς· 340
 "Αἰθ' οὕτως, Εὐμαιε, φίλος Διὶ πατρὶ γένοιο
 ὥς ἐμοί, ὅττι μ' ἔπαισας Ἀλῆς καὶ οἰζύος ἀνῆς.
 πλαγκτοσύνης δ' οὐκ ἔστι κακώτερον ἄλλο βροτοῖσιν
 ἀλλ' ἐνεκ' οὐλομένης γαστρὸς κακὰ κήδε' ἔχουσιν
 ἀνέρες, ὃν τιν' ἱκνῆται ἄλῃ καὶ πῆμα καὶ ἄλγος. 345

¹ δανά : νάλλα.

² Line 345 is omitted in many MSS.

they have good cheer in abundance. Straightway might I do good service among them in all that they would. For I will tell thee, and do thou give heed and hearken. By the favour of Hermes, the messenger, who lends grace and glory to all men's work, in the business of serving no man beside can vie with me, in piling well a fire, in splitting dry faggots, in carving and roasting meat, and in pouring wine—in all things in which meaner men serve the noble."

Then deeply moved didst thou speak to him, swineherd Eumæus: "Ah me, stranger, why has such a thought come into thy mind? Verily thou art fain utterly to perish there, if thou wouldest indeed enter the throng of the wooers, whose wantonness and violence reach the iron heaven. Not such as thou are their serving men; nay, they that serve them are young men, well clad in cloaks and tunics, and ever are their heads and bright faces sleek; and polished tables are laden with bread, and meat, and wine. Nay, abide here; there is none that is vexed by thy presence, not I, nor any other of the men that are with me. But when the dear son of Odysseus comes, he will himself clothe thee in a cloak and a tunic as raiment, and will send thee whithersoever thy heart and spirit bid thee go."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Would, Eumæus, that thou mightest be as dear to father Zeus as thou art to me, for that thou hast made me cease from wandering and from grievous hardships. Than roaming naught else is more evil for mortals; yet for their cursed belly's sake men endure evil woes, when wandering and sorrow and

νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ ἰσχανάας μείναι τέ με κείνον ἄνωγας,
 εἰπ' ἄγε μοι περὶ μητρὸς Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο
 πατρὸς θ', ὃν κατέλειπεν ἰὼν ἐπὶ γήραος οὐδὲρ,
 ἣ που ἐτι ζῶουσιν ὑπ' αἰγὰς ἡελίοιο,
 ἣ ἤδη τεθνᾶσι καὶ εἰν Ἀῖδαο δόμοισι." 350

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν
 "Τουγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, ξεῖνε, μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω.
 Λαέρτης μὲν ἐτι ζῶει, Διὶ δ' εὐχεται αἰεὶ
 θυμὸν ἀπὸ μελέων φθίσθαι οἷς ἐν μεγάροισιν·
 ἐκπάγλως γὰρ παιδὸς οὐδύρεται οἰχομένοιο 355
 κουριδίης τ' ἀλόχοιο λαίφρονος, ἣ ἑ μάλιστα
 ἤκαχ' ἀποφθιμένη καὶ ἐν ὠμῷ γήραϊ θῆκεν.
 ἣ δ' ἄχει οὐ παιδὸς ἀπέφθιτο κυδαλίμοιο,
 λευγαλέῳ θανάτῳ, ὥς μὴ θύνοι ὅς τις ἐμοί γε
 ἐνθάδε ναιετάων φίλος εἴη καὶ φίλα ἔρδοι. 360
 ὄφρα μὲν οὖν δὴ κείνη ἔην, ἀχέουσά περ ἔμπης,
 τόφρα τί μοι φίλον ἔσκε μεταλλῆσαι καὶ ἔρσθαι,
 οὐνεκά μ' αὐτὴ θρέψεν ἅμα Κτιμένη τανυπέπλω,
 θυγατέρ' ἰφθίμῃ, τὴν ὀπλοτάτην τέκε παίδων·
 τῇ ὁμοῦ ἐτρεφόμην, ὀλίγον δέ τί μ' ἤσσον ἐτίμα. 365
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἦβην πολυήρατον ἰκόμεθ' ἅμφω,
 τὴν μὲν ἔπειτα Σάμηνδ' ἔδοσαν καὶ μυρὶ ἔλοντο,
 αὐτὰρ ἐμὲ χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἵματ' ἐκείνη
 καλὰ μάλ' ἀμφίεσσα, ποσὶν-δ' ὑποδήματα δοῦσα
 ἀγρόνδε προέαλλε· φίλαι δέ με κηρόθι μᾶλλον. 370
 νῦν δ' ἤδη τούτων ἐπιδεύομαι· ἀλλὰ μοι αὐτῷ
 ἔργον ἀέξουσιν μάκαρες θεοὶ ᾧ ἐπιμένῳ·
 τῶν ἔφαγόν τ' ἐπιόν τε καὶ αἰδοίοισιν ἔδωκα.
 ἐκ δ' ἄρα δεσποίνης οὐ μείλιχον ἔστιν ἀκοῦσαι

pain come upon them. But now, since thou keepest me here and biddest me await thy master, come, tell me of the mother of godlike Odysseus, and of the father, whom, when he went forth, he left behind him on the threshold of old age. Are they haply still living beneath the rays of the sun? or are they now dead and in the house of Hades?"

Then the swineherd, a leader of men, answered him: "Then verily, stranger, will I frankly tell thee. Laertes still lives, but ever prays to Zeus that his life may waste away from his limbs within his halls. For wondrously does he grieve for his son that is gone, and for the wise lady, his wedded wife, whose death troubled him most of all, and brought him to untimely old age. But she died of grief for her glorious son by a miserable death, as I would that no man may die who dwells here as my friend and does me kindness. So long as she lived, though it was in sorrow, it was ever a pleasure to me to ask and enquire after her, for she herself had brought me up with long-robed Ctimene, her noble daughter, whom she bore as her youngest child. With her was I brought up, and the mother honoured me little less than her own children. But when we both reached the longed-for prime of youth they sent her to Same to wed, and got themselves countless bridal gifts; but as for me, my lady clad me in a cloak and tunic, right goodly raiment, and gave me sandals for my feet and sent me forth to the field; but in her heart she loved me the more. But now I lack all this, though for my own part the blessed gods make to prosper the work to which I give heed. Therefrom have I eaten and drunk, and given to reverend strangers. But from my mistress I may hear naught

οὐτ' ἔπος οὔτε τι ἔργον, ἔπει κακὸν ἔμπεσεν οἴκῳ, 375
 ἄνδρες ὑπερφίαλοι· μέγα δὲ δμῶες χατέουσιν·
 ἀντὶα δεσποίνης φάσθαι καὶ ἕκαστα πυθέσθαι
 καὶ φαγέμεν πίεμεν τε, ἔπειτα δὲ καὶ τι φέρεσθαι
 ἀγρόνδ', οἷά τε θυμὸν ἀεὶ δμῶεσσιν¹ λαίνει."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ πόποι, ὥς ἄρα τυτθὸς ἑὼν, βῦμαιε συβῶτα, 381
 πολλὸν ἀπεπλάγχθης σῆς πατρίδος ἠδὲ τοκῆων.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατὰλεξον,
 ἥε διεπράθετο πτόλις ἀνδρῶν εὐρυάγυια,
 ἧ ἔνι ναιετάασκε πατήρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ, 383
 ἥ σέ γε μουνωθέντα παρ' οἴεσιν ἢ παρὰ βουσίην
 ἄνδρες δυσμενέες νηυσὶν λάβον ἠδ' ἐπέρασσαν
 τοῦδ' ἀνδρὸς πρὸς δῶμαθ', ὃ δ' ἄξιον ὄνον ἔδωκε."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε συβῶτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν·
 "Ἔειν', ἔπει ἄρ δὴ ταῦτά μ' ἀνείρμαι ἠδὲ μεταλλᾶς, 390
 σιγῇ νῦν ξυνίει καὶ τέρπεο, πῖνέ τε οἶνον
 ἡμενος. αἶδε δὲ νύκτες ἀθέσφατοι· ἔστι μὲν εὐδειν,
 ἔστι δὲ τερπομένοισιν ἀκούειν· οὐδέ τί σε χρῆ,
 πρὶν ὥρη, καταλέχθαι· ἀνίη καὶ πολὺς ὕπνος.
 τῶν δ' ἄλλων ὅτινα κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἰνῶγει, 393
 εὐδέτω ἐξελθῶν· ἅμα δ' ἡοὶ φαινομένηφι
 δειπνήσας ἄρ' ὕεσσιν ἀνακτορίησιν ἐπέσθω.
 νῶϊ δ' ἐνὶ κλισίῃ πίνοντέ τε δαινυμένῳ τε
 κῆδεσιν ἀλλήλων τερπώμεθα λευγαλέοισι,
 μνησόμενῳ· μετὰ γάρ τε καὶ ἄλγεσι τέρπεται ἄνθρωπος, 400
 ὅς τις δὴ μάλα πολλὰ πάθῃ καὶ πόλλ' ἐπαληθῇ.
 τοῦτο δέ τοι ἔρέω ὃ μ' ἀνείρμαι ἠδὲ μεταλλᾶς.

¹ ἀεὶ δμῶεσσιν· διὰ στήθεσιν.

pleasant, whether word or deed, for a plague has fallen upon the house, even overweening men. Yet greatly do servants long to speak before their mistress, and learn of all, and to eat and drink, and thereafter to carry off somewhat also to the fields, such things as ever make the heart of a servant to grow warm."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Lo now, surely when thou wast but a child, swineherd Eumæus, thou didst wander far from thy country and thy parents. But come now, tell me this, and declare it truly. Was a broad-wayed city of men sacked, wherein thy father and honoured mother dwelt? Or, when thou wast alone with thy sheep or cattle, did foemen take thee in their ships and bear thee for sale to the house of this thy master, who paid for thee a goodly price?"

Then the swineherd, a leader of men, answered him: "Stranger, since thou dost ask and question me of this, hearken now in silence, and take thy joy, and drink thy wine, as thou sittest here. These nights are wondrous long. There is time for sleep, and there is time to take joy in hearing tales; thou needest not lay thee down till it be time; there is weariness even in too much sleep. As for the rest, if any man's heart and spirit bid him, let him go forth and sleep, and at daybreak let him eat, and follow our master's swine. But we two will drink and feast in the hut, and will take delight each in the other's grievous woes, as we recall them to mind. For in after time a man finds joy even in woes, whosoever has suffered much, and wandered much. But this will I tell thee, of which thou dost ask and enquire.

" Νῆσός τις Συρίη κυκλήσκειται, εἴ που ἀκούεις,
 Ὀρτυγίης καθύπερθε, ὅθι τροπαὶ ἡελίοιο,
 οὐ τι περιπληθὴς λίην τόσον, ἀλλ' ἀγαθὴ μὲν, 405
 εὐβοτος, εὐμηλος, οἶνοπληθής, πολύπυρος.
 πείνη δ' οὐ ποτε δῆμον ἐσέρχεται, οὐδέ τις ἄλλη
 νοῦσος ἐπὶ στυγερῇ πέλεται δειλοῖσι βροτοῖσιν·
 ἀλλ' ὅτε γηράσκωσι πόλιν κῆτα φύλ' ἀνθρώπων,
 ἐλθὼν ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων Ἀρτέμιδι ξύν 410
 οἷς ἀγανοῖς βελέεσσιν ἐποιχόμενος κατέπεφνε.
 ἐνθα δ'ὲν πόλιν, δίχα δέ σφισι πάντα δέδασται·
 τῆσιν δ' ἀμφοτέρησι πατὴρ ἐμὸς ἐμβασίλευε,
 Κτήσιος Ὀρμινίδης, ἐπικέκλος ἀθανάτοισιν.

" Ἔνθα δὲ Φοίνικες ναυσίκλυτοι ἤλυθον ἄνδρες, 415
 τρώκται, μυρ' ἀγοντες ἀθύρματα νηὶ μελαίνῃ.
 ἔσκε δὲ πατὴρ ἐμοῖο γυνὴ Φοίνισσ' ἐπὶ οἴκῳ,
 καλὴ τε μεγάλη τε καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα ἰδυῖα·
 τὴν δ' ἄρα Φοίνικες πολυπαῖπαλοι ἠπερόπενον,
 πλυνούσῃ τις πρῶτα μίγῃ κοίλῃ παρὰ νηὶ 420
 εὐνῇ καὶ φιλότῃ, τὰ τε φρένας ἠπεροπείει
 θηλυτέρῃσι γυναιξί, καὶ ἥ κ' εὐεργὸς ἔησιν.
 εἰρώτα δὲ ἔπειτα τίς εἴη καὶ πόθεν ἔλθοι·
 ἥ δὲ μάλ' αὐτίκα πατὴρ ἐπέφραδεν ὑψιφεφές δῶ·

" Ἐκ μὲν Σιδῶνος πολυχάλκον εὐχομαι εἶναι, 425
 κούρη δ' εἴμ' Ἀρύβαντος ἐγὼ ῥυδὸν ἀφνειοῖο·
 ἀλλὰ μ' ἀνὴρπαξαν Τύφιοι ληίστορες ἄνδρες
 ἀγρόθεν ἐρχομένην, πέρασαν δέ τε δεῦρ' ἀγαγόντες
 τοῦδ' ἀνδρὸς πρὸς δώμαθ'· ὁ δ' ἄξιον ὄνον ἔδωκε.

" Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν ἀνὴρ, ὃς ἐμίσγετο λάθρῃ·
 " Ἢ ῥά κε νῦν πάλιν αὐτίς ἄμ' ἡμῖν οἴκαδ' ἔποις, 431

"There is an isle called Syria, if haply thou hast heard thereof, above Ortygia, where are the turning-places of the sun. It is not so very thickly settled, but it is a good land, rich in herds, rich in flocks, full of wine, abounding in wheat. Famine never comes into the land, nor does any hateful sickness besides fall on wretched mortals; but when the tribes of men grow old throughout the city, Apollo, of the silver bow, comes with Artemis, and assails them with his gentle shafts, and slays them. In that isle are two cities, and all the land is divided between them, and over both ruled as king my father, Ctesius, son of Ormenus, a man like to the immortals.

"Thither came Phoenicians, men famed for their ships, greedy knaves, bringing countless trinkets in their black ship. Now there was in my father's house a Phoenician woman, comely and tall, and skilled in glorious handiwork. Her the wily Phoenicians beguiled. First, as she was washing clothes, one of them lay with her in love by the hollow ship; for this beguiles the minds of women, even though one be upright. Then he asked her who she was, and whence she came, and she straightway shewed him the high-roofed home of my father, and said:

"Out of Sidon, rich in bronze, I declare that I come, and I am the daughter of Arybas, to whom wealth flowed in streams. But Taphian pirates seized me, as I was coming from the fields, and brought me hither, and sold me to the house of yonder man, and he paid for me a goodly price."

"Then the man who had lain with her in secret answered her: 'Wouldest thou then return again with us to thy home, that thou mayest see the high-roofed

ὄφρα ἴδῃ πατρός καὶ μητέρος ὑψερεφές δῶ
αὐτοὺς τ'· ἡ γὰρ εἴτ' εἰσὶ καὶ ἀφνειοὶ καλέονται·

“Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε γυνὴ καὶ ἀμείβετο μύθῳ·
Ἐῖη κεν καὶ τοῦτ', εἴ μοι ἐβέλαιοτέ γε, ναῦται, 435
ὄρκῳ πιστωθῆναι ἀπήμονά μ' οἰκαδ' ἀπάξειν·

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπώμινυν ὥς ἐκέλευεν.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ὁμοσάν τε τελεύτησάν τε τὸν ὄρκον,
τοῖς δ' αὖτις μετέειπε γυνὴ καὶ ἀμείβετο μύθῳ·

“Σιγῇ νῦν, μή τις με προσαυδαίτω ἐπέσσειν 440
ὑμετέρων ἐτάρων, ξυμβλήμενος ἢ ἐν ἀγυίῃ,
ἢ πον ἐπὶ κρήνῃ· μή τις ποτὶ δῶμα γέροντι
ἐλθὼν ἐξείπῃ, ὃ δ' οἰσόμενος καταδήσῃ
δισμῷ ἐν ἀργαλέῳ, ὑμῖν δ' ἐπιφράσσετ' ὀλεθρον.
ἀλλ' ἔχετ' ἐν φρεσὶ μῦθον, ἐπείγετε δ' ὦνον ὀδαίων. 445

ἀλλ' ὅτε κεν δὴ νηῦτ' πλείῃ βιότοιο γένηται,
ἀγγελίῃ μοι ἔπειτα θοῶς ἐς δῶμαθ' ἰκέσθω·
οἴσω γὰρ καὶ χρυσόν, ὅτις χ' ὑποχείριος ἔλθῃ·
καὶ δέ κεν ἄλλ' ἐπίβαθρον ἐγὼν ἐθέλουσά γε δοίην.
παῖδα γὰρ ἀνδρὸς εἶης ἐνὶ μεγάροις ἀτιτάλλω, 450
κερδαλέον δὴ τοῖον, ἅμα τροχόωντα θύραζε·
τόν κεν ἄγοιμ' ἐπὶ νηός, ὃ δ' ὑμῖν μυρίον ὦνον
ἄλφοι, ὅπῃ περάσῃτε κατ' ἄλλοθρόους ἀνθρώπους·

“Ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς εἰποῦσ' ἀπέβη πρὸς δῶματα καλά,
οἱ δ' ἐνιαυτὸν ἅπαντα παρ' ἡμῖν αἴθι μένουτες 455
ἐν νηὶ γλαφυρῇ βίοτον πολὺν ἐμπολόωντο.
ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ κοίλῃ νηὺς ἤχθετο τοῖσι νέεσθαι,
καὶ τότε ἄρ' ἄγγελον ἦκαν, ὃς ὠγγείλαε γυναικί.
ἦλινθ' ἀνὴρ πολυΐδρις ἐμοῦ πρὸς δῶματα πατρός
χρύσειον ὄρμον ἔχων, μετὰ δ' ἡλέκτροισιν ἔερτο. 460

house of thy father and mother, and see them too? For of a truth they yet live, and are accounted rich.'

"Then the woman answered him, and said: 'This may well be, if you sailors will pledge yourselves by an oath, that you will bring me safely home.'

"So she spoke, and they all gave an oath thereto, as she bade them. But when they had sworn and made an end of the oath, the woman again spoke among them, and made answer:

"Be silent now, and let no one of your company speak to me, if he meets me in the street or haply at the well, lest some one go to the palace and tell the old king, and he wax suspicious and bind me with grievous bonds, and devise death for you. Nay, keep my words in mind, and speed the barter of your wares. But, when your ship is laden with goods, let a message come quickly to me at the palace; for I will also bring whatever gold comes under my hand. Aye, and I would gladly give another thing for my passage. There is a child of my noble¹ master, whose nurse I am in the palace, such a cunning child, who ever runs abroad with me. Him would I bring on board, and he would fetch you a vast price, wherever you might take him for sale among men of strange speech.'

"So saying, she departed to the fair palace. And they remained there in our land a full year, and got by trade much substance in their hollow ship. But when their hollow ship was laden for their return, then they sent a messenger to bear tidings to the woman. There came a man, well versed in galle, to my father's house with a necklace of gold, and with amber beads was it strung between. This

¹ Or, on another interpretation of *his*, simply "my."

τὸν μὲν ἄρ' ἐν μεγάρῳ δμῳαὶ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ
 χεροῖν τ' ἀμφαφώντο καὶ ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὁρῶντο,
 ὦτον ὑπισχόμεναι· ὁ δὲ τῇ κατένευσε σιωπῇ.

ἢ τοι ὁ καυνεύσας κοίλῃν ἐπὶ νῆα βεβήκει,
 ἢ δ' ἐμὲ χειρὸς ἐλοῦσα δόμων ἐξῆγε θύραζε. 465

εὔρε δ' ἐνὶ προδόμῳ ἡμὲν δέκα ἡδὲ τραπέζας
 ἀνδρῶν δαιτυμόνων, οἳ μὲν πατέρ' ἀμφεπένοντο.
 οἱ μὲν ἄρ' ἐς θῶκον πρόμολον, δῆμοιό τε φῆμιν,
 ἢ δ' αἶψα τριῶν ἀλεια κατακρύψας' ὑπὸ κόλπῳ
 ἔκφερεν· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἐπόμεν ἄεσιφροσύνῃσι. 470

δύσετό τ' ἡέλιος, σκιάωντό τε πᾶσαι ἀγυιαί·
 ἡμεῖς δ' ἐς λιμένα κλυτὸν ἤλθομεν ὦκα κίοντες,
 ἐνθ' ἄρα Φοινίκων ἀνδρῶν ἦν ὠκύαλος νηὺς.
 οἱ μὲν ἔπειτ' ἀναβάπτες ἐπέπλεον ἕγρὰ κέλευθα,
 νῶ ἀναβησάμενοι· ἐπὶ δὲ Ζεὺς οὐρον ἱάλλεν. 475

ἐξῆμαρ μὲν ὁμῶς πλίομεν νύκτας τε καὶ ἡμαρ·
 ἰάλλ' ὅτε δὴ ἑβδομον ἡμαρ ἐπὶ Ζεὺς θῆκε Κρονίων,
 τὴν μὲν ἔπειτα γυναῖκα βῦλ' Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα,
 ἄντλῳ δ' ἐνδούπησε πεσοῦσ' ὥς εἰσαλίη κήξ.
 καὶ τὴν μὲν φώκησι καὶ ἰχθύσι κύρμα γενέσθαι 480

ἔκβαλον· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ λιπόμην ἀκαχήμενος ἦτορ·
 τοὺς δ' Ἰθίικη ἐπέλασσε φέρων ἀνεμός τε καὶ ὕδωρ,
 ἐνθα με Λαέρτης πρίατο κτεάτεσσιν ἑοῖσιν.

οὕτω τήνδε τε γαῖαν ἐγὼν ἴδον ὀφθαλμοῖσι."
 Τὸν δ' αὖ διογενὴς Ὀδυσσεὺς ἡμέμβετο μύθῳ· 485

"Εὔμαι', ἢ μάλα δὴ μοι ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θυμὸν δρινας
 ταῦτα ἕκαστα λέγων, ὅσα δὴ πάθες ἀλγεα θυμῷ.
 ἀλλ' ἢ τοι σοὶ μὲν παρὰ καὶ κακῷ ἰσθλὸν ἔβηκε
 Ζεὺς, ἐπεὶ ἀνδρὸς δῶματ' ἐφίκεο πολλὰ μογήσας

the maidens in the hall and my honoured mother were handling, and were gazing on it, and were offering him their price; but he nodded to the woman in silence. Then verily when he had nodded to her, he went his way to the hollow ship, but she took me by the hand, and led me forth from the house. Now in the fore-hall of the palace she found the cups and tables of the banqueters, who waited upon my father. They had gone forth to the council and the people's place of debate, but she quickly hid three goblets in her bosom, and bore them away; and I followed in my heedlessness. Then the sun set, and all the ways grew dark. And we made haste and came to the goodly harbour, where was the swift ship of the Phœnicians. Then they embarked, putting both of us on board as well, and sailed over the watery ways, and Zeus sent them a favourable wind. For six days we sailed, night and day alike; but when Zeus, son of Cronos, brought upon us the seventh day, then Artemis, the archer, smote the woman, and she fell with a thud into the hold, as a sea bird plunges. Her they cast forth to be a prey to seals and fishes, but I was left, my heart sore stricken. Now the wind, as it bore them, and the wave, brought them to Ithaca, where Laertes bought me with his wealth. Thus it was that my eyes beheld this land."

To him then Zeus-born Odysseus made answer, and said: "Eumæus, of a truth thou hast deeply stirred the heart in my breast in telling all this tale of the sorrow thou hast borne at heart. Yet verily in thy case Zeus has given good side by side with the evil, since after all thy toil thou hast come to the house of a kindly man, who gives thee food and

ἡπίου, δὲ δὴ τοι παρέχει βρῶσιν τε πόσιν τε 490
 ἐνδυκῆς, ζῶεις δ' ἀγαθὸν βίον· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γε
 πολλὰ βροτῶν ἐπὶ ἄσπε' ὑλῶμενος ἐνθάδ' ἱκάνω."

"Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
 καὶ δδραθέτην δ' οὐ πολλὸν ἐπὶ χρόνον, ἀλλὰ μίνυθ'·
 αἶψα γὰρ Ἡὼς ἦλθεν ἐσθρονος. οἱ δ' ἐπὶ χέρσου 495
 Τηλεμάχου ἑταροὶ λῦον ἰστία, καὶ δ' ἔλον ἰστὸν
 καρπαλίμως, τὴν δ' εἰς ὄρμον προέρυσσαν ἑρετμοῖς·
 ἐκ δ' εὐνὰς ἔβαλον, κατὰ δὲ πρυμνήσι' ἔδησαν·
 ἐκ δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ βαῖνον ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖνι θαλάσσης,
 δεῖπνόν τ' ἐντύνοντο κερῶντό τε αἶθρα οἶνον. 500

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,
 τοῖσι δὲ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἤρχετο μύθων
 "Τμεῖς μὲν νῦν ἄστυδ' ἐλαύνετε νῆα μέλαιναν,
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἀγροῖς ἐπιείσομαι ἡδὲ βοτῆρας·
 ἐσπέριος δ' εἰς ἄστυ ἰδὼν ἐμὰ ἔργα κάτειμι. 505
 ἡῶθεν δέ κεν ὑμῖν ὁδοιπόριον παραβείμην,
 δαῖτ' ἀγαθὴν κρειῶν τε καὶ οἶνου ἡδυπότοιο."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Θεοκλῦμενος θεοειδής·
 "Πῇ γὰρ ἐγὼ, φίλε τέκνον, ἴω; τεῦ δῶμαθ' ἱκώμαι
 ἀνδρῶν οἱ κραναὴν Ἰθάκην κᾶτα κοιραρέουσιν; 510
 ἢ ἰθὺς σῆς μητρὸς ἴω καὶ σοῖο δόμοιο;"

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα·
 "Ἄλλως μὲν σ' ἂν ἐγὼ γε καὶ ἡμίτερόνδε κελοίμην
 ἔρχεσθ'· οὐ γὰρ τι ξενίων ποθῇ· ἀλλὰ σοὶ αὐτῷ
 χεῖρον, ἐπεὶ τοι ἐγὼ μὲν ἀπέσσομαι, οὐδέ σε μήτηρ 515
 ὄψεται· οὐ μὲν γὰρ τι θαμὰ μνηστῆρσ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
 φαίνεται, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τῶν ὑπερωτέρῳ ἰστὸν ὑφαίνει.
 ἀλλὰ τοι ἄλλον φῶτα πιφαύσκομαι ὃν κεν ἴκοιο,

drink, and that with kindness, and thou livest well; while as for me, it is while wandering through the many cities of men that I am come hither."

Thus they spoke to one another, and then lay down to sleep, for no long time, but for a little; for soon came fair-throned Dawn. But the comrades of Telemachus, drawing near the shore, furled the sail, and took down the mast quickly, and rowed the ship to her anchorage with their oars. Then they cast out the mooring-stones and made fast the stern cables, and themselves went forth upon the shore of the sea, and made ready their meal and mixed the flaming wine. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, among them wise Telemachus was the first to speak, saying:

"Do you now row the black ship to the city, but I will visit the fields and the herdsmen, and at evening will come to the city when I have looked over my laods. And in the morning I will set before you, as wages for your journey, a good feast of flesh and sweet wine."

Then godlike Theoclymenus answered him: "Whither shall I go, dear child? To whose house shall I come of those who rule in rocky Ithaca? Or shall I go straight to thy mother's house and thine?"

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Were things otherwise, I should bid thee go even to our house, for there is in no wise lack of entertainment for strangers, but it would be worse for thyself, since I shall be away, and my mother will not see thee. For she does not often appear before the wooers in the house, but apart from them weaves at her loom in an upper chamber. But I will tell thee of another man to whom thou mayest go, Eurymachus, glorious

Κύρۇماχον, Πολύβοιο δαίφρονος ἄγλαον υἷον,
 τὸν νῦν Ἰσα θεῶ Ἰθακήσιοι εἰσορόωσι· 520
 καὶ γὰρ πολλὸν ἄριστος ἀνὴρ μέμονέν τε μάλιστα
 μητέρ' ἐμήν γαμέειν καὶ Ὀδυσσῆος γέρας ἔξειν.
 ἀλλὰ τὰ γε Ζεὺς οἶδεν Ὀλύμπιος, αἰθέρι ναίων,
 εἰ κέ σφι πρὸ γάμοιο τελευτήσῃ κακὸν ἡμαρ."

"Ὡς ὄρα οἱ εἰπόντι ἐπέπτατο δεξιὸς ὄρνις, 525
 κίρκος, Ἀπόλλωνος ταχὺς ἄγγελος· ἐν δὲ πόδεσσι
 τίλλε πέλειαν ἔχων, κατὰ δὲ πτερὰ χεῦεν ἔραζε
 μασσηγύς, νηὸς τε καὶ αὐτοῦ Τηλεμάχοιο.
 τὸν δὲ Θεοκλύμενος ἐτάρων ἀπονόσφι καλέσσας
 ἐν τ' ἄρα οἱ φύ χειρὶ ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε· 530

"Τηλέμαχ', οὐ τοι ἄνευ θεοῦ ἔπτατο δεξιὸς ὄρνις
 ἔγνω γάρ μιν ἑσάντα ἰδὼν οἰωνὸν ἔδοντα.
 ὑμετέρου δ' οὐκ ἔστι γένος βασιλεύτερον ἄλλο
 ἐν δῆμῳ Ἰθάκης, ἀλλ' ὑμεῖς καρτεροὶ αἰεὶ."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤυδα· 535
 "Αἰ γὰρ τοῦτο, ξεῖνε, ἔπος τετελεσμένον εἴη
 τῷ κε τύχα γνώης φιλότῃτά τε πολλὰ τε δῶρα
 ἐξ ἐμεῦ, ὥς ἂν τίς σε συναντόμενος μακαρίζοι."

"Ἡ καὶ Πείραιον προσεφώντε, πιστὸν ἑταῖρον
 "Πείραιε Κλυτίδῃ, σὺ δέ μαι τὰ περ ἄλλα μάλιστα 540
 πείθῃ ἐμῶν ἐτάρων, οἳ μοι Πύλον εἰς ἄμ' ἔποντο·
 καὶ νῦν μοι τὸν ξεῖνον ἄγων ἐν δώμασι σοῖσιν
 ἐνδυκέως φιλέειν καὶ τίμεν, εἰς δ' κεν ἔλθω."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Πείραιος δουρικλυτὸς ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 "Τηλέμαχ', εἰ γάρ κεν σὺ πολὺν χρόνον ἐνθάδῃ μέμνῃς,
 τύνδῃ τ' ἐγὼ κομῶ, ξενίων δέ οἱ οὐ ποθὴ ἔσται." 545

son of wise Polybus, whom now the men of Ithaca look upon as on a god. For he is by far the best toan, and is most eager to marry my mother and to have the honour of Odysseus. Nevertheless Olympian Zeus, who dwells in the sky, knows this, whether or not before marriage he will fulfil for them the evil day."

Even as he spoke a bird flew forth upon the right, a hawk, the swift messenger of Apollo. In his talons he held a dove, and was plucking her and shedding the feathers down on the ground midway between the ship and Telemachus himself. Then Theoclymenus called him apart from his companions, and clasped his hand, and spoke, and addressed him:

"Telemachus, surely not without a god's warrant has this bird flown forth upon our right, for I knew, as I looked upon him, that he was a bird of omen. Thine yours is no other house in the land of Ithaca more kingly; nay, ye are ever supreme."

Then wise Telemachus answered him again: "Ah, stranger, I would that this word of thine might be fulfilled. Then shouldest thou straightway know of kindness and many a gift from me, so that one that met thee would call thee blessed."

Therewith he spoke to Peiræus, his trusty comrade: "Peiræus, son of Clytius, it is thou that in other matters art wont to hearken to me above all my comrades, who went with me to Pylos; so now do thou, I pray thee, take this stranger and give him kindly welcome in thy house, and show him honour until I come."

Then Peiræus, the famous spearman, answered him: "Telemachus, though thou shouldest stay here long, I will entertain him, and he shall have no lack of what is due to strangers."

HOMER

ὣς εἰπὼν ἐπὶ νηὸς ἔβη, ἐκέλευσε δ' ἑταίρους
αὐτοῖς τ' ὑμβαίνειν ἀνά τε πρυμνήσια λύσαι.
οἱ δ' αἰψ' εἰσβαῖνον καὶ ἐπὶ κληῖσι καθίζον.

Ἴηλέμαχος δ' ὑπὸ ποσσὶν ἰδῆσατο καλὰ πέδιλα, 550
εἶλετο δ' ἄλκιμαν ἔγχος, ἀκαχμέον δ' αἰὲ χαλκῷ,
νηὸς ἀπ' ἱκριόφιν· τοὶ δὲ πρυμνήσι' ἔλυσαν.
οἱ μὲν ἀνῶσαντες πλέον ἐς πόλιν, ὡς ἐκέλευσε
Τηλέμαχος, φίλος υἱὸς Ὀδυσσεύος θεόιο·
τὸν δ' ὥκα προβιβάντα πόδες φέρον, ὅφρ' ἴκετ' αὐλήν,
ἐνθα οἱ ἦσαν ὕες μύλα μυρίαί, ἣσι συβώτης 554
ἰσθλὸς ἔων ἐνίανεν, ἀνάκτεσιν ἥπια εἰδὼς.

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So saying, he went on board the ship, and bade his comrades themselves to embark and to loose the stern cables. So they went on board straightway, and sat down upon the benches. But Telemachus bound beneath his feet his fair saydals, and took his mighty spear, tipped with sharp bronze, from the deck of the ship. Then the men loosed the stern cables, and thrusting off, sailed to the city, as Telemachus bade, the dear son of divine Odysseus. But his feet bore him swiftly on, as he strode forward, until he reached the farmstead where were his countless swine, among whom slept the worthy swineherd with a heart loyal to his masters.

Τὼ δ' αὐτ' ἐν κλισίῃ Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ δῖος ὕφορβος
 ἐντύνοντο ἄριστον ἅμ' ἡοῖ, κηαμένω πῦρ,
 ἐκπεψάν τε νομῆας ἅμ' ἀγρομένοισι σύεσσι·
 Τηλέμαχον δὲ περισσαινὸν κύνας ὕλακόμοιοι,
 οὐδ' ἔλασσαν προσιόντα· νόησε δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς 5
 σαίνοντάς τε κύνας, περί τε κτύπος ἦλθε ποδοῖιν.
 αἶψα δ' ἄρ' Εὖμαιον ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Εὖμαι', ἡ μάλα τίς τοι ἐλεύσεται ἐνθάδ' ἑταῖρος
 ἡ καὶ γνώριμος ἄλλος, ἐπεὶ κύνας οὐχ ὕλαουσιν,
 ἀλλὰ περισσαίνουσι· ποδῶν δ' ὑπὸ δοῦπον ἀκούω.” 10

Οὐ πῶ πᾶν εἴρητο ἔπος, ὅτε οἱ φίλος υἱὸς
 ἔσση ἐνὶ προθύροισι· ταφῶν δ' ἀνόρουσε συβώτης,
 ἐκ δ' ἄρα οἱ χειρῶν πίσον ἄγγεια, τοῖς ἐπονείϊτο,
 κερνάς αἰθοπα οἶνον· ὁ δ' ἀντίος ἦλθεν ἄνακτος,
 κύσσε δέ μιν κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ἄμφω φάεα καλὰ 15
 χεῖράς τ' ἀμφοτέρας· θαλερὸν δὲ οἱ ἐκπесе δάκρυ.
 ὥς δὲ πατήρ ἦν παῖδα φίλα φρονέων ἀγαπάζῃ
 ἐλθόντ' ἐξ ἀπίης γαίης δεκάτῳ ἐνιαυτῷ,
 μούνον τηλύγετον, τῷ ἔπ' ἄλγεα πολλὰ μαγήσῃ,
 ὥς τότε Τηλέμαχον θιοειδέα δῖος ὕφορβος 20
 πάντα κύσεν περιφύς, ὥς ἐκ θανάτοιο φυγόντα·
 καί ῥ' ὀλοφυρόμενος ἔπει πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

BOOK XVI

MEANWHILE the two in the hut, Odysseus and the goodly swineherd, had kindled a fire, and were making ready their breakfast at dawn, and had sent forth the herdsmen with the droves of swine; but around Telemachus the baying hounds fawned, and barked not as he drew near. And goodly Odysseus noted the fawning of the hounds, and the sound of footsteps fell upon his ears; and straightway he spoke to Eumæus winged words:

"Eumæus, surely some comrade of thine will be coming, or at least some one thou knowest, for the hounds do not bark, but fawn about him, and I hear the sound of footsteps."

Not yet was the word fully uttered, when his own dear son stood in the doorway. In amazement up sprang the swineherd, and from his hands the vessels fell with which he was busied as he mixed the flaming wine. And he went to meet his lord, and kissed his head and both his beautiful eyes and his two hands, and a big tear fell from him. And as a loving father greets his own dear son, who comes in the tenth year from a distant land—his only son and well-beloved, for whose sake he has borne much sorrow—even so did the goodly swineherd then clasp in his arms godlike Telemachus, and kiss him all over as one escaped from death; and with wailing he addressed him with winged words:

"Ἡλθεε, Τηλέμαχε, γλυκερὸν φάος. οὐ σ' ἔτ' ἐγὼ γε
 ὄψεσθαι ἐφάμην, ἐπεὶ ὄχρεο νηὶ Πύλονδε.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν εἰσελθε, φίλον τέκος, ὄφρα σε θυμῷ 23
 τέρψομαι εἰσορόων νῆον ἄλλοθεν ἔνδον ἰόντα.
 οὐ μὲν γάρ τι θάμ' ἀγρὸν ἐπέρχεται οὐδὲ νομῆας,
 ἀλλ' ἐπιδημεύεις· ὥς γάρ νύ τοι εὖαδε θυμῷ,
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων ἱσορῶν ἀλδῆλον δμῖλον."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦυδα· 30
 "Ἔσσεται οὕτως, ἅττα· σέθεν δ' ἔνεκ' ἐνθάδ' ἰκάνω,
 ὄφρα σέ τ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἴδω καὶ μῦθον ἀκούσω,
 ἥ μοι ἔτ' ἐν μεγάροις μῆτηρ μένει, ἥ τις ἤδη
 ἀνδρῶν ἄλλος ἐγίμην, Ὀδυσσεύς δέ που εἰνὴ
 χήτει ἐκνευαίων κάκ' ἀρείχυνια κείμεν ἔχουσα." 33

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν·
 "Καὶ λήν κείνη γε μένει τετληῶτι θυμῷ
 σοῖσιν ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν· οἷζυραὶ δέ οἱ αἰεὶ
 φθίνουσιν νύκτες τε καὶ ἡμέραι δάκρυ χεοῦσιν."

"Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας οἱ ἐδέξατο χάλκεον ἔγχος· 40
 αὐτὰρ δ' ὅ γ' εἰσὼ ἱεν καὶ ὑπέρβη λαῖνον οὐδὸν.
 τῷ δ' ἔδρης ἐπιόντι πατὴρ ὑπόειξεν Ὀδυσσεύς·
 Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐρήτυε φώνησέν τε·

"Ἥσ', ὦ ξεῖν· ἡμεῖς δὲ καὶ ἄλλοθι δῆρομεν ἔδρην
 σταθμῷ ἐν ἡμετέρῳ· παρὰ δ' ἀνὴρ δεσκαταθήσει." 43

"Ὡς φάβ', ὁ δ' αὖτις ἰὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζητο· τῷ δὲ συβώτης
 χεῦεν ὑποχλωρὰς ῥῶπας καὶ κώας ὑπερθεῖν
 ἐνθα καθέζετ' ἔπειτα Ὀδυσσεύς φίλος νῆος.
 τοῖσιν δ' αὖ κρειῶν πίνακας παρέθηκε συβώτης

"Thou art come, Telemachus, sweet light of my eyes. I thought I should never see thee more after thou hadst gone in thy ship to Pylos. But come, enter in, dear child, that I may delight my heart with looking at thee here in my house, who art newly come from other lands. For thou dost not often visit the farm and the herdsmen, but abidest in the town; so, I ween, has it seemed good to thy heart, to look upon the destructive throng of the wooers."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "So shall it be, father. It is for thy sake that I am come hither, to see thee with my eyes, and to hear thee tell whether my mother still abides in the halls, or whether by now some other man has wedded her, and the couch of Odysseus lies haply in want of bedding, covered with foul spider-webs."

Then the swineherd, a leader of men, answered him: "Aye, verily, she abides with steadfast heart in thy halls, and ever sorrowfully for her the nights and the days wane as she weeps."

So saying, he took from him the spear of bronze, and Telemachus went in and passed over the stone threshold. As he drew near, his father, Odysseus, rose from his seat and gave him place, but Telemachus on his part checked him, and said:

"Be seated, stranger, and we shall find a seat elsewhere in our farmstead. There is a man here who will set us one."

So he spoke, and Odysseus went back and sat down again, and for Telemachus the swineherd strewed green brushwood beneath and a fleece above it, and there the dear son of Odysseus sat down. Then the swineherd set before them platters of roast

ὀπταλίῳν, ἃ ῥα τῇ προτέρῃ ὑπέλειπον ἔδοντες, 50
 σίτον δ' ἑσσυμένως παρενήνεεν ἐν κανέοισιν,
 ἐν δ' ἄρα κισσυβίῳ κίρη μελιηδέα οἶνον·
 αὐτὸς δ' ἀντίον ἴξεν Ὀδυσσῆος θέοιο.

οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο, 55
 δὴ τότε Τηλέμαχος προσεφώνεε διὸν ὑφορβύν·

“Ἄττα, πόθεν τοι ξεῖνος ὃδ' ἵκετο; πῶς δέ ἐ ναῦται
 ἤγαγον εἰς Ἰθάκην; τίνες ἔμμεναι εὐχετόωντο;
 οὐ μὲν γάρ τί ἐ πεζὸν δίομαι ἐνθάδ' ἰκέσθαι.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαῖε συβῶτα· 60
 “Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθέα πάντα ἄγορεύσω.

ἔκ μὲν Κρητῶν γένος εὐχεται εὐρεῖάν, 63
 φησὶ δὲ πολλὰ βροτῶν ἐπὶ ἄστεα δινηθῆναι
 πλαζόμενος· ὥς γάρ οἱ ἐπέκλωσεν τὰ γε δαίμων.
 νῦν αὖ Θεσπρωτῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐκ νηὸς ἀποδράς
 ἤλυθ' ἐμὸν πρὸς σταθμόν, ἐγὼ δέ τοι ἐγγυαλίξω·
 ἔρξον ὅπως ἐθέλεις· ἰκέτης δέ τοι εὐχεται εἶναι.”

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα·
 “Εὐμαί', ἦ μάλα τοῦτο ἔπος θυμαλγὲς ἔειπες· 70
 πῶς γὰρ δὴ τὸν ξεῖνον ἐγὼν ὑποδέξομαι οἴκῃ;

αὐτὸς μὲν νέος εἰμὶ καὶ οὐ πω χερσὶ πέποιθα
 ἀνδρ' ἀπαμύνασθαι, ὅτε τις πρότερος χαλεπήνῃ·
 μητρὶ δ' ἐμῇ δίχα θυμὸς ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μερμηρίζει,
 ἢ αὐτοῦ παρ' ἐμοί τε μένῃ καὶ δῶμα κομίζῃ.
 εὐνὴν τ' αἰδομένη πύσιος δῆμοιό τε φῆμιν, 75
 ἢ ἤδη ἅμ' ἔπεται Ἀχαιῶν ὃς τις ἄριστος
 μνάται ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἀνὴρ καὶ πλείστα πόρρῃσιν.

meats, which they had left at their meal the day before, and quickly heaped up bread in baskets, and mixed in a bowl of ivy wood honey-sweet wine, and himself sat down over against divine Odysseus. So they put forth their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, Telemachus spoke to the goodly swineherd, and said :

"Father, from whence did this stranger come to thee? How did sailors bring him to Ithaca? Who did they declare themselves to be? For nowise, methinks, did he come hither on foot."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Then verily, my child, I will tell thee all the truth. From broad Crete he declares that he has birth, and he says that he has wandered roaming through many cities of mortals; so has a god spun for him this lot. But now he has run away from a ship of the Thesprotians and come to my farmstead, and I shall put him in thy hands. Do what thou wilt. He declares himself thy suppliant."

Then again wise Telemachus answered him: "Eumæus, verily this word which thou hast uttered stings me to the heart. For how am I to welcome this stranger in my house? I am myself but young, nor have I yet trust in my might to defend me against a man, when one waxes wroth without a cause. And as for my mother, the heart in her breast wavers this way and that, whether to abide here with me and keep the house, respecting the bed of her husband and the voice of the people, or to go now with him whosoever is best of the Achaiæans that woo her in the halls, and offers the most gifts of

ἀλλ' ἢ τοι τὸν ξεῖνον, ἐπεὶ τεὸν ἵκετο δῶμο,
 ἔσσω μιν χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε, εἴματα καλή,
 δώσω δὲ ξίφος ἀμφηκες καὶ ποσσὶ πέδιλα, 80
 πέμψω δ' ὅππῃ μιν κραδίη θυμᾶς τε κελεύει.
 εἰ δ' ἐθέλεις, σὺ κόμισσον ἐνὶ σταθμοῖσιν ἐρύξας·
 εἴματα δ' ἐνθάδ' ἐγὼ πέμψω καὶ σῖτον ἅπαντα
 ἔδμεναι, ὥς ἂν μὴ σε κατατρύχῃ καὶ ἑταίρους.
 κῆῖσε δ' ἂν οὖ μιν ἐγὼ γε μετὰ μνηστῆρας ἐφίμι 85
 ἔρχεσθαι· λίην γὰρ ἀτάσθαλον ὕβριν ἔχουσι·
 μὴ μιν κερτομέωσιν, ἐμοὶ δ' ἄχος ἔσσεται αἰνόν,
 πρήξαι δ' ἀργαλέον τι μετὰ πλεόνεσσιν ἐόντα
 ἄνδρα καὶ ἰφθιμον, ἐπεὶ ἢ πολὺ φέρτεροί εἰσι."
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς· 90
 "ὦ φίλ', ἐπεὶ θῆν μοι καὶ ἀμείψασθαι θέμις ἐστίν,
 ἢ μόλα μεν καταδάπτει' ἀκούοντος φίλον ἦτορ,
 οἷά φατε μνηστῆρας ἀτάσθαλα μηχανάσθαι
 ἐν μεγάροις, ἀέκητι σέθεν τοιούτου ἐόντος.
 εἰπέ μοι ἡὲ ἐκὼν ὑποδάμνυσαι, ἢ σέ γε λαοὶ 95
 ἐχθαίρουσ'· ἵνα δῆμον, ἐπισπόμενοι θεοῦ ὀμφῇ,
 ἢ τι κασιγνήτοις ἐπιμέμφεαι, οἷσιν περ ἀνὴρ
 μαρναμένοισι πέποιθε, καὶ εἰ μέγα νεῖκος ὄρηται.
 αἱ γὰρ ἐγὼν οὕτω νέος εἶην τῷδ' ἐπὶ θυμῷ,
 ἢ παῖς ἐξ Ὀδυσῆος ἀμύμονος ἡὲ καὶ αὐτός· 100
 αὐτίκ' ἔπειτ' ἅπ' ἐμείο κάρη τάμοι ἀλλότριος φῶς, 102
 εἰ μὴ ἐγὼ κείνοισι κακὸν πάντεσσι γενοίμην,
 ἐλθὼν ἐν μέγαρον Λαερτιάδεω Ὀδυσῆος.¹
 εἰ δ' αὖ μοι πληθυῖ δαμασαίατο μοῦνον ἐόντα, 105
 βουλοίμην κ' ἐν ἐμοῖσι κατακτῆμενος μεγάροισι

¹ Line 104 was rejected by Zenodotus.

wooing. But verily, as regards this stranger, now that he has come to thy house, I will clothe him in a cloak and tunic, fair raiment, and will give him a two-edged sword, and sandals for his feet, and send him whithersoever his heart and spirit bid him go. Or, if thou wilt, do thou keep him here at the farmstead, and care for him, and raiment will I send hither and all his food to eat, that he be not the ruin of thee and of thy men. But thither will I not suffer him to go, to join the company of the wooers, for they are over-full of wanton insolence, lest they mock him, and dread grief come upon me. And to achieve aught is hard for one man among many, how mighty soever he be, for verily they are far stronger."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Friend, since surely it is right for me to make answer—verily ye rend my heart, as I hear your words, such wantonness you say the wooers devise in the halls in despite of thee, so goodly a man. Tell me, art thou willingly thus oppressed? Or do the people throughout the land hate thee, following the voice of a god? Or hast thou cause to blame thy brothers, in whose fighting a man trusts even if a great strife arise. Would that with my present temper I were as young as thou, either the son of blameless Odysseus, or Odysseus himself;¹ straightway then might some stranger cut my head from off my neck, if I did not prove myself the lane of them all when I had come to the halls of Odysseus, son of Laertes. But if they should overwhelm me by their numbers, alone as I was, far rather would I die, slain in

¹ Line 101 (*ἄλλος ἀλγεῖνός τε γὰρ καὶ λαιῖός αὖτε*, "might come from his wanderings; for there is still room for hope") has been omitted in translating as ruinous to the sense.

τεθνάμεν ἢ τάδε γ' αἰὲν ἀεικέα ἔργ' ὀράσθαι,
 ξείνους τε στυφελιζομένους δμῶας τε γυναῖκας
 ῥυστάζοντας ἀεικέλως κατὰ δώματα καλὰ,
 καὶ οἶνον διαφυσσόμενον, καὶ σῖτον ἔδοντας 110
 μὰ ψ αὐτως, ἀτέλεστον, ἀτηνύσιψ ἐπὶ ἔργῳ."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦ᾽ οὐδα·
 "Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, ξεῖνε, μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορεύσω.
 οὔτε τί μοι πᾶς δῆμος ἀπεχθόμενος χαλεπαίνει,
 οὔτε κασιγνήτοις ἐπιμέμφομαι, οἷσι περ ἀνὴρ 115
 μαρναμένοισι πέποιθε, καὶ εἰ μέγα νεῖκος δρῆται.
 ὦδε γὰρ ἡμετέρην γενεὴν μούνοισε Κρονίων·
 μῶνον Λαέρτην Ἀρκείσιος υἱὸν ἔτικτε,
 μῶνον δ' αὖτ' Ὀδυσῆα πατὴρ τέκεν· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 μῶνον ἔμ' ἐν μεγάροισι τεκὼν λίπεν οὐδ' ἀπόνητο. 120
 τῷ νῦν δυσμενέες μάλα μυρίοι εἰς' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ.
 ὅσοι γὰρ νῆσοισιν ἐπικρατέουσιν ἄριστοι,
 Δουλιχίῳ τε Σάμῃ τε καὶ Ὑλήνῃ τε Ζακύνθῳ,
 ἦ δ' ὅσοι κραναὴν Ἰθάκην κῆτα κοιρανέουσι,
 τόσσοι μητέρ' ἐμὴν μνῶνται, τρύχουσι δὲ οἶκον. 125
 ἦ δ' οὐτ' ἀρνείται στυγερόν γάμον οὔτε τελευτὴν
 ποιῆσαι δύραται· τοὶ δὲ φθινύθουσιν ἔδοντες
 οἶκον ἐμόν· τάχα δὴ με διαρραίσουσι καὶ αὐτόν.
 ἀλλ' ἢ τοι μὲν ταῦτα θεῶν ἐν γούνασι κεῖται·
 ἅττα, σὺ δ' ἔρχεο θᾶσσον, ἐχέφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ 130
 εἰφ' ὅτι οἱ σῶς εἰμὶ καὶ ἐκ Πύλου εἰληλουθα.
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν αὐτοῦ μενέω, σὺ δὲ δεῦρο νίεσθαι,
 οἷη ἀπάγγειλας· τῶν δ' ἄλλων μὴ τις Ἀχαιῶν
 πευθέσθω· πολλοὶ γὰρ ἐμοὶ κακὰ μηχανόονται."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα· 135

my own halls, than behold continually these shameful deeds, strangers mishandled, and men dragging the handmaids in shameful fashion through the fair halls, and wine drawn to waste, and men devouring my bread all heedlessly, without limit, with no end to the business."

And wise Telemachus answered him: "Then verily, stranger, I will frankly tell thee all. Neither do the people at large bear me any grudge or hatred, nor have I cause to blame brothers, in whose fighting a man trusts, even if a great strife arise. For in this wise has the son of Cronos made our house to run in but a single line. As his only son did Arceisius beget Laertes, as his only son again did his father beget Odysseus, and Odysseus begot me as his only son, and left me in his halls, and had no joy of me. Therefore it is that foes past counting are now in the house; for all the princes who hold sway over the islands—Dulichium, and Same, and wooded Zacynthus—and those who lord it over rocky Ithaca, all these woo my mother and lay waste my house. And she neither refuses the hateful marriage, nor is she able to make an end; but they with feasting consume my substance, and will ere long bring me, too, to ruin. Yet these things verily lie on the knees of the gods. But, father, do thou go with speed, and tell constant Penelope that she has me safe, and I am come from Pylos. But I will abide here, and do thou come back hither, when thou hast told thy tale to her alone; but of the rest of the Achaeans let no one learn it, for many there are who contrive evil against me."

To him then, swineherd Eumaeus, didst thou make

" Γινώσκω, φρονέω· τά γε δὴ νοέοντι κελεύεις.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον,
 ἣ καὶ Λαέρτη αὐτὴν ὁδὸν ἄγγελας ἔλθω
 δυσμόρφῳ, ὃς τῆος μὲν Ὀδυσσεύος μέγ' ἀχεύων
 ἔργα τ' ἐποπτεύεσκε μετὰ δμῶων τ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ 140
 πῖνε καὶ ἡσθ', ὅτε θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι ἀνώγοι·
 αὐτὰρ νῦν, ἐξ οὗ σύ γε ᾤχεο νηϊ Πύλῳνδε,
 οὐ πῶ μὲν φασιν φαγέμεν καὶ πείμεν αὐτως,
 οὐδ' ἐπὶ ἔργα ἰδεῖν, ἀλλὰ στοναχῇ τε γόῳ τε
 ἦσται ὀδυρόμενος, φθινύθει δ' ἀμφ' ὅσπερ φειχρῶς." 145

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦυδα·
 " Ἄλγιον, ἀλλ' ἔμπης μιν ἑάσομεν, ἀχνύμενοί περ·
 εἰ γάρ πως εἴη αὐτάγρετα πάντα βροτοῖσι,
 πρῶτόν κεν τοῦ πατρὸς ἐλοίμεθα νόστιμον ἡμαρ.
 ἀλλὰ σύ γ' ἀγγείλας ὀπίσω κίε, μηδὲ κατ' ἀγροῦς 150
 πλάζεσθαι μετ' ἐκείνων· ἀτὰρ πρὸς μητέρα· εἰπεῖν
 ἀμφίπολον ταμίην ὀτρυνέμεν ὅττι τάχιστα
 κρύβδην· κείνη γάρ κεν ἀπαγγείλειε γέροντι." ¹

Ἡ ῥα καὶ ὤρσε συφορβόν· ὁ δ' εἴλετο χερσὶ πέδιλα,
 δησάμενος δ' ὑπὸ ποσσὶ πόλινδ' ἵεν. οὐδ' ἄρ' Ἀθήνην
 λῆθεν ὑπὸ σταθμοῖο κιών Εὐμαιος ὑφορβός, 155
 ἀλλ' ἦ γε σχεδὸν ἦλθε· δέμος δ' ἤϊκτιο γυναικί
 καλῇ τε μεγάλῃ τε καὶ ἀγλαὰ ἔργα ἰδυῖη.
 στή δὲ κατ' ἀντίθυρον κλισίης Ὀδυσσῆϊ φανείσα·
 οὐδ' ἄρα Τηλέμαχος ἰδὼν ἀντίον οὐδ' ἐνόησεν, 160
 οὐ γάρ πω πάντεσσι θεοὶ φαίνονται ἑναργεῖς,
 ἀλλ' Ὀδυσσεύς τε κύνες τε ἴδον, καὶ ῥ' οὐχ ὑλάοντο

¹ Lines 152-3 were rejected by Aristarchus.

answer, and say: "I see, I give heed; this thou biddest one with understanding. But come now, tell me this, and declare it truly; whether I shall go on the self-same way with tidings to Laertes also, wretched man, who for a time, though grieving sorely for Odysseus, was still wont to oversee the fields, and would eat and drink with the slaves in the house, as the heart in his breast bade him. But now, from the day when thou wentest in thy ship to Pylos, they say he has no more eaten and drunk as before, nor overseen the fields, but with groaning and wailing he sits and weeps, and the flesh wastes from off his bones."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "'Tis the sadder; but none the less we will let him be, despite our sorrow; for if in any wise all things might be had by mortals for the wishing, we should choose first of all the day of my father's return. No, do thou come back, when thou hast given thy message, and wander not over the fields in search of Laertes; but bid my mother with all speed send forth her handmaid, the housewife, secretly, for she might bear word to the old man."

With this he roused the swineherd, and he took his sandals in his hands and bound them beneath his feet and went forth to the city. Nor was Athene unaware that the swineherd Eumæus was gone from the farmstead, but she drew near in the likeness of a woman, comely and tall, and skilled in glorious handiwork. And she stood over against the door of the hut, shewing herself to Odysseus, but Telemachus did not see her before him, or notice her; for in no wise do the gods appear in manifest presence to all. But Odysseus saw her, and the hounds, and they

κνυζηθμῷ δ' ἐτέρωσε διὰ σταθμοῖο φόβηθεν.
 ἢ δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' ὀφρύσι νεῦσε· νόησε δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.
 ἐκ δ' ἦλθεν μεγάροιο παρέκ μέγα τειχίον αὐλῆς. 163
 στή δὲ πάροιθ' αὐτῆς· τὸν δὲ προσέειπεν Ἀθήνη·

“Διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,
 ἤδη νῦν σφὶ παιδὶ ἔπος φάο μῆδ' ἐπίκευθε,
 ὥς ἂν μνηστῆρσιν θάνατον καὶ κῆρ' ἄραρόντε
 ἔρχησθον προτὶ ἄστυ περικλυτόν· οὐδ' ἐγὼ αὐτῇ 170
 δηρὸν ἀπὸ σφῶϊν ἔσομαι μεμανῖα μίχεσθαι.”

Ἢ καὶ χρυσεὴν ῥέβδω ἐπεμάσσατ' Ἀθήνη.
 φᾶρος μὲν οἱ πρῶτον ἐϋπλυνὲς ἠδὲ χιτῶνα
 θῆκ' ἀμφὶ στήθεσσι, δέμας δ' ὤφελλε καὶ ἤβην.
 ἅψ δὲ μελαγχροῖς γένετο, γναθμοὶ δὲ τάνυσθεν, 175
 κυάνεαι δ' ἐγένοντο γενειάδες ἀμφὶ γένειον.
 ἢ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς ἔρξασα πάλιν κίεν· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς
 ἦεν ἐς κλισίην· θάμβησε δὲ μιν φίλος υἱός,
 ταρβήσας δ' ἐτέρωσε βῆλ' ὄμματα, μὴ θεὸς εἴη,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα· 180

“Ἀλλοῖός μοι, ξεῖνε, φάνης νέον ἢ ἐπύροιθεν,
 ἄλλα δὲ εἴματ' ἔχεις, καὶ τοι χρῶς οὐκέθ' ὁμοῖος.
 ἢ μῖλα τις θεὸς ἔσσι, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν
 ἄλλ' ἴληθ', ἵνα τοι κεχαρισμένα δώομεν ἱρὰ
 ἠδὲ χρύσεια δῶρα, τετυγμένα· φεῖδεο δ' ἡμέων.” 185

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Οὐ τίς τοι θεὸς εἰμι· τί μ' ἀθανάτοισιν ἔσκεις;
 ἀλλὰ πατὴρ τεός εἰμι, τοῦ εἵνεκα σὺ στεναχίζων
 πάσχεις ἄλγεα πολλὰ, βίας ὑποδέγμενος ἀνδρῶν.”

barked not, but with whining slunk in fear to the further side of the farmstead. Then she made a sign with her brows, and goodly Odysseus perceived it, and went forth from the hall, past the great wall of the court, and stood before her, and Athene spoke to him, saying:

"Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many devices, even now do thou reveal thy word to thy son, and hide it not, that when you two have planned death and fate for the wooers, you may go to the famous city. Nor will I myself be long away from you, for I am eager for the battle."

With this, Athene touched him with her golden wand. A well-washed cloak and a tunic she first of all cast about his breast, and she increased his stature and his youthful bloom. Once more he grew dark of colour, and his cheeks filled out, and dark grew the beard about his chin. Then, when she had wrought thus, she departed, but Odysseus went into the hut. And his dear son marvelled, and, seized with fear, turned his eyes aside, lest it should be a god. And he spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Of other sort thou seemest to me now, stranger, than awhile ago, and other are the garments thou hast on, and thy colour is no more the same. Verily thou art a god, one of those who hold broad heaven. Nay then, be gracious, that we may offer to thee acceptable sacrifices and golden gifts, finely wrought; but do thou spare us."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Be sure I am no god; why dost thou liken me to the immortals? Nay, I am thy father, for whose sake thou dost with groaning endure many griefs, and submittest to the violence of men."

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας υἱὸν κύσε, καὶ δὲ παρειῶν 190
δάκρυον ἤκε χαμαῖζε· πάρος δ' ἔχε νωλεμές αἰεῖ.

Τηλέμαχος δ'· οὐ γὰρ πῶ ἐπείθετο δν πατέρ' εἶναι,
ἐξαυτὶς μιν ἔπεσσιν ἀμειβόμενος προσέειπεν·

“Οὐ σύ γ' Ὀδυσσεύς ἐσσι, πατὴρ ἐμός, ἀλλὰ με δαίμων
θέλγει, ὅφρ' ἔτι μᾶλλον ὀδυρόμενος στεναχίζω. 195

οὐ γάρ πως ἂν θνητὸς ἀνὴρ τῷδε μηχανόφτο
ᾧ αὐτοῦ γε νόφ, ὅτε μὴ θεὸς αὐτὸς ἐπελθὼν
ῥηϊδίως ἐθέλων θείῃ νέον ἢ γέροντα.

ἢ γάρ τοι νέον ἦσθα γέρων καὶ ἀεκέα ἔσσο·
νῦν δὲ θεοῖσιν ἔοικας, οἳ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσι.” 200

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
“Τηλέμαχ', οὐ σε ἔοικε φίλον πατέρ' ἔρδον ἔοντα

οὔτε τι θαυμάζειν περιώσιον οὔτ' ἀγάσθαι·
οὐ μὲν γάρ τοι ἔτ' ἄλλος ἐλεύσεται ἐνθάδ' Ὀδυσσεύς,

ἀλλ' ὁδ' ἐγὼ τοιόσδε, παθὼν κακά, πολλὰ δ' ἀληθεῖς.¹ 205
ἤλυθον εἰκοστῷ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν.

αὐτάρ τοι τόδε ἔργον Ἀθηναίης ἀγελείης,
ἢ τέ με τοῖον ἔθηκεν, ὅπως ἐθέλει, δύναται γάρ,

ἄλλοτε μὲν πτωχῷ ἐναλίγκιον, ἄλλοτε δ' αὖτε
ἀνδρὶ νέφ καὶ καλὰ περὶ χροῦ εἴματ' ἔχοντι. 210

ῥηϊδιοὶ δὲ θεοῖσι, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν,
ἡμὲν κυδῆναι θνητὸν βροτὸν ἠδὲ πακῶσαι.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ
ἀμφιχυθείς πατέρ' ἔσθλδν ὀδύρετο, δάκρυα λαίβων.

ἀμφοτέροισι δὲ τοῖσιν ὑφ' ἡμερος ὤρτο γόοιο· 215
κλαῖον δὲ λιγέως, ἀδινώτερον ἢ τ' οἶωνοί,

φῆναι ἢ αἰγυπιοὶ γαμψώνυχες, οἷσί τε τέκνα
αἰγρόται ἐξεῖλοντο πάρος πετεηνὰ γενέσθαι·

ὥς ἄρα τοί γ' ἐλκεῖνδον ὑπ' ὀφρύσι δάκρυον εἶβον.

¹ ἀληθεῖς, ἀνταλλάτ.

So saying, he kissed his son, and from his cheeks let fall a tear to earth, but before he ever steadfastly held them back. Howbeit Telemachus—for he did not yet believe that it was his father—again answered, and spoke to him, saying:

“Thou verily art not my father Odysseus, but some god beguiles me, that I may weep and groan yet more. For nowise could a mortal man contrive this by his own wit, unless a god were himself to come to him, and easily by his will make him young or old. For verily but now thou wast an old man and meanly clad, whereas now thou art like the gods, who hold broad heaven.”

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: “Telemachus, it beseems thee not to wonder overmuch that thy father is in the house, or to be amazed. For thou mayest be sure no other Odysseus will ever come hither; but I here, I, even such as thou seest me, after sufferings and many wanderings, am come in the twentieth year to my native land. But this, thou must know, is the work of Athene, driver of the spoil, who makes me such as she will—for she has the power—now like a beggar, and now again like a young man, and one wearing fair raiment about his body. Easy it is for the gods, who hold broad heaven, both to glorify a mortal man and to abase him.”

So saying, he sat down, and Telemachus, flinging his arms about his noble father, wept and shed tears, and in the hearts of both arose a longing for lamentation. And they wailed aloud more vehemently than birds, sea-eagles, or vultures with crooked talons, whose young the country-folk have taken from their nest before they were fledged; even so pitiously did they let tears fall from beneath their brows. And

καί νύ κ' ὄδυρομένοισιν ἔδν φάος ἡελίοιο, 220
εἰ μή Τηλέμαχος προσεφώνειεν ὃν πατέρ' αἶψα·

“Ποίη γάρ νῦν δεῦρο, πάτερ φίλε, νηῖ σε ναῦται
ἤγαγον εἰς Ἰθάκην; τίνες ἔμμεναι εὐχιστόωντο;
οὐ μὲν γάρ τί σε πεζὸν ὄτομαι ἐνθάδ' ἰέσθαι.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς 225

“Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθείην καταλέξω.
Φαίηκές μ' ἄγαγον ναυσίκλυτοι, οἳ τε καὶ ἄλλους
ἀνθρώπους πέμπουσιν, ὅτις σφέας εἰσαφίκηται·
καὶ μ' εὐδοντ' ἐν νηὶ βοῇ ἐπὶ πόντον ἄγοντες
κάτθεσαν εἰς Ἰθάκην, ἔπορον δέ μοι ἀγλαὰ δῶρα, 230
χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τε ἅλις ἐσθῆτιί θ' ὑφαντήν.
καὶ τὰ μὲν ἐν σπήεσαι θεῶν ἰότητι κέονται·
νῦν αὖ δεῦρ' ἰκόμεν ὑποθημοσύνησιν Ἀθήνης,
δῶρα κε δυσμενέεσσι φόνου πέρι βουλευσώμεν.
ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι μνηστῆρας ἀριθμήσας κατάλεξον, 235
δφρ' εἰδέω ὅσσοι τε καὶ οἳ τινες ἀνέρες εἰσὶ·
καὶ κεν ἐμὸν κατὰ θυμόν ἀμύμονα μερμηρίξας
φράσσομαι, ἢ κεν νῶϊ δυνησόμεθ' ἀντιφέρεσθαι
μούνῳ ἀνευθ' ἄλλων, ἢ καὶ διζησόμεθ' ἄλλους.”

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦῦδα· 240

“ὦ πάτερ, ἢ τοι σείο μέγα κλέος αἰὲν ἄκουον,
χεῖράς τ' αἰχμητὴν ἔμμεναι καὶ ἐπίφρονα βουλήν·
ἀλλὰ λίην μέγα εἶπες· ἄγῃ μ' ἔχει· οὐδὲ κεν εἷη
ἄνδρες δύο πολλοῖσι καὶ ἰφθίμοισι μάχεσθαι.
μνηστήρων δ' οὔτ' ἄρ' δεκάς ὑπρεκὺς οὔτε δὴ οἶαι, 245
ἀλλὰ πολὺ πλείονες· τάχα δ' εἶσαι ἐνθάδ' ἰφίθμόν.
ἐκ μὲν Δουλιχίοιο δύο καὶ πεντήκοντα

¹ ἐνθάδ': αἰὲτος.

now would the light of the sun have gone down upon their weeping, had not Telemachus spoken to his father suddenly:

"In what manner of ship, dear father, have sailors now brought thee hither to Ithaca? Who did they declare themselves to be? For nowise, methinks, didst thou come hither on foot."

And the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Then verily, my child, I will tell thee all the truth. The Phaeacians brought me, men famed for their ships, who send other men too on their way, whosoever comes to them. And they brought me as I slept in a swift ship over the sea, and set me down in Ithaca, and gave me glorious gifts, stores of bronze and gold and woven raiment. These treasures, by the favour of the gods, are lying in caves. And now I am come hither at the bidding of Athene, that we may take counsel about the slaying of our foes. Come now, count me the wooers, and tell their tale, that I may know how many they are and what manner of men, and that I may ponder in my noble heart and decide whether we two shall be able to maintain our cause against them alone without others, or whether we shall also seek out others."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Father, of a truth I have ever heard of thy great fame, that thou wast a warrior in strength of hand and in wise counsel, but this thou sayest is too great; amazement holds me. It could not be that two men should fight against many men and mighty. For of the wooers there are not ten alone, or twice ten, but full many more. Here as we are shalt thou straightway learn their number. From Dulichium there are two and

κοῦροι κεκριμένοι, θεὸς δὲ δρηστήῃρες ἔπονται·
 ἐκ δὲ Σάμης πίσυρές τε καὶ εἴκοσι φῶντες ἔασιν,
 ἐκ δὲ Ζακύνθου ἔασιν εἴκοσι κοῦροι Ἀχαιῶν, 250
 ἐκ δ' αὐτῆς Ἰθάκης δνοκαΐδεα πάντες ἄριστοι,
 καὶ σφιν ἅμ' ἐστὶ Μείδων κῆρυξ καὶ θεῖος Ἀοιδὸς
 καὶ δοιδὼ θεράποντε, δαήμονε δαιτροσυνάων.
 τῶν εἰ κεν πάντων ἀντήσομεν ἔνδον ἐόντων,
 μὴ πολὺπικρα καὶ αἰνὰ βίας ἀποτίσσαι ἐλθῶν. 255
 ἀλλὰ σύ γ', εἰ δύνασαι τιν' ἀμύντορα μερμηρίξαι,
 φράϊζε, ὃ κεν τις νῶϊν ἀμύνοι πρόφρονι θυμῷ."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼν ἐρέω, σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καὶ μεν ἄκουσον·
 καὶ φράσαι ἥ κεν νῶϊν Ἀθήνη σὺν Διὶ πατρὶ 260
 ἀρκέσει, ἥ τιν' ἄλλον ἀμύντορα μερμηρίξω."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 "Ἐσθλῷ τοι τοῦτω γ' ἐπαμύντορε, τοὺς ἀγορεύεις,
 ἔψι περ ἐν νεφέεσσι καθημένω· ὧ τε καὶ ἄλλοις
 ἀνδράσι τε κρατέουσι καὶ ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσι." 265

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Οὐ μὲν τοι κείνω γε πολὺν χρόνον ἀμφὶς ἔσσεσθον
 φυλόπιδος κρατερῆς, ὅποτε μνηστήρσι καὶ ἡμῖν
 ἐν μεγάροισιν ἐμοῖσι μένος κρίνεται Ἄρης.
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν ἔρχευ ἅμ' ἡοὶ φαινομένηφιν 270
 οἴκαδε, καὶ μνηστήρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισιν ὀμίλει·
 αὐτὰρ ἐμὲ προτὶ ἄστυ συβώτης ὕστερον ἄξει,
 πτωχῷ λευγαλέῳ ἐναλίγκιον ἡδὲ γέροντι.
 εἰ δέ μ' ἀτιμήσουσι δόμον κάτα, σὸν δὲ φίλον κῆρ
 τετλάτω ἐν στήθεσσι κακῶς πάσχοντος ἐμεῖο, 275
 ἦν περ καὶ διὰ δῶμα ποδῶν ἔλκεωσι θύραζε

fifty chosen youths, and six serving men attend them; from Same came four and twenty men; from Zacynthus there are twenty youths of the Achaeans; and from Ithaca itself twelve men, all of them the noblest, and with them is Medon, the herald, and the divine minstrel, and two squires skilled in carving meats. If we shall meet all these within the halls, bitter, I fear, and with bane will be thy coming to avenge violence. Nay, do thou consider, if thou canst bethink thee of any helper—one that would aid us two with a ready heart."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "Well, then, I will tell thee, and do thou give heed and hearken to my words, and consider whether for us two Athene, with father Zeus, will be enough, or whether I shall bethink me of some other helper."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Good, thou mayest be sure, are these two helpers whom thou dost mention, though high in the clouds do they abide, and they rule over all men alike and the immortal gods."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered: "Not long of a surety will those two hold aloof from the mighty fray, when between the wooers and us in my halls the might of Ares is put to the test. But for the present, do thou go at daybreak to thy house and join the company of the haughty wooers. As for me, the swineherd will lead me later on to the city in the likeness of a woeful and aged beggar. And if they shall put despite on me in the house, let the heart in thy breast endure while I am evil entreated, even if they drag me by the feet through the house to the door, or hurl at me and smite me;

ἢ βέλεσιν βάλλωσι· σὺ δ' εἰσορόων ἀνέχεσθαι.
 ἀλλ' ἢ τοι παύεσθαι ἀνωγέμεν ἀφροσυνάων,
 μελιχίοις ἐπέεσσι παραυδῶν· οἱ δέ τοι οὐ τι
 πείσονται· δὴ γάρ σφι παρίσταται αἴσιμον ἡμαρ. 290
 ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·
 ὅππότε κεν πολὺβουλος ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θῆσιν Ἀθήνη,
 νεύσω μὲν τοι ἐγὼ κεφαλῇ, σὺ δ' ἔπειτα νοήσας
 δσσα τοι ἐν μεγάροισιν Ἀρήϊα τεύχεα κεῖται
 ἐς μυχὸν ἱψηλοῦ θαλάμου καταθεῖναι αἰέρας 295
 πάντα μάλ'· αὐτὰρ μνηστῆρας μαλακοῖς ἐπέεσσι
 παρφάσθαι, ὅτε κέν σε μεταλλῶσιν ποθέοντες·

"Ἐκ καπνοῦ κατέθηκ', ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐτι τοῖσιν ἐφίκει
 οἷά ποτε Τροίηνδε κιῶν κατέλειπεν Ὀδυσσεύς,
 ἀλλὰ κατήκισται, δσσον πυρὸς ἔκετ' αὐτμή. 300
 πρὸς δ' ἔτι καὶ τόδε μείζον ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε Κρονίων,
 μή πως οἴνωθέντες, ἔριν στήσαντες ἐν ὑμῖν,
 ἀλλήλους τρώσῃτε κατασχύνῃτε τε δαῖτα
 καὶ μνηστύν· αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐφέλκεται ἄνδρα σίδηρος."

"Νῶϊν δ' οἷοισιν δύο φείσγαντα καὶ δύο δοῦρε 305
 καλλιπέειν καὶ δοιὰ βούγρια χερσὶν ἐλέσθαι,
 ὥς ἂν ἐπιθύσαντες ἐλοίμεθα· τοὺς δέ κ' ἔπειτα
 Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη θέλξει καὶ μνητίετα Ζεὺς.¹
 ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·
 εἰ ἑτεὸν γ' ἐμός ἐσσι καὶ αἵματος ἡμετέροιο, 300
 μή τις ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀκουσάτω ἔνδον ἰόντος,

¹ Lines 281-98 (288-94 virtually = xix. 7-13) were rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

still do thou endure to behold it. Thou shalt indeed bid them cease their folly, seeking to dissuade them with gentle words; yet in no wise will they hearken to thee, for verily their day of doom is at hand. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to heart. When Athene, rich in counsel, shall put it in my mind, I will nod to thee with my head; and do thou thereupon, when thou notest it, take all the weapons of war that lie in thy halls, and lay them away one and all in the secret place of the lofty store-room. And as for the wooers, when they miss the arms and question thee, do thou beguile them with gentle words, saying:

“Out of the smoke have I laid them,¹ since they are no longer like those which of old Odysseus left behind him when he went forth to Troy, but are all befouled so far as the breath of the fire has reached them. And furthermore this greater fear has the son of Cronos put in my heart, lest haply, when heated with wine, you may set a quarrel afoot among you and wound one another, and so bring shame on your feast and on your wooing. For of itself does the iron draw a man to it.”

“But for us two alone do thou leave behind two swords and two spears, and two ox-hide shields for us to grasp, that we may rush upon them and seize them; while as for the wooers, Pallas Athene and Zeus, the counsellor, will beguile them. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to heart. If in truth thou art my son and of our blood, then let no one hear that Odysseus is at home;

¹ The Homeric house had no chimney, and the walls with the weapons hanging on them naturally become grimy with soot from the fire which burned in the centre of the hall.

μήτ' οὖν Λαέρτης ἴστω τό γε μήτε συβώτης
μήτε τις οἰκήων μήτ' αὐτῇ Πηνελόπεια,
ἀλλ' οἶοι σύ τ' ἐγὼ τε γυναικῶν γνῶμεν ἰθὺν·
καί κ' εἰ δμῶων ἀνδρῶν ἐτι πειρηθεῖμεν,
ἤ μὲν ὅπου τις νῶϊ τίει καὶ δαΐδιε θυμῷ,
ἢ δ' ὅτις οὐκ ἰλέγει, σέ δ' ἀτιμᾷ τοῖον εἶντα."

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Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσεφώνεε φαίδιμος υἱός·
"ὦ πάτερ, ἦ τοι ἐμὸν θυμὸν καὶ ἔπειτά γ', ὄλω,
γυνῶσαι· οὐ μὲν γάρ τι χαλιφροσύναι γέ μ' ἔχουσιν·
ἀλλ' οὐ τοι τόδε κέρδος ἐγὼν ἔσσεσθαι ὅλω
ἡμῖν ἀμφοτέροισι· σὲ δὲ φρύζεσθαι ἄνωγα.
δηθὰ γὰρ αὐτως εἴη ἐκάστου πειρητίζων,
ἔργα μετερχόμενος· τοὶ δ' ἐν μεγάροισιν ἔκηλοι
χρήματα δαρδάπτουσιν ὑπέρβιον οὐδ' ἔτι φειδῶ.
ἀλλ' ἦ τοί σε γυναῖκας ἐγὼ δεδῶσθαι ἄνωγα,
αἱ τέ σ' ἀτιμάζουσι καὶ αἱ νηλεϊτιδές εἰσιν·
ἀνδρῶν δ' οὐκ ἂν ἔγω γε κατὰ σταθμοὺς ἐθέλοιμι
ἡμέας πειράζειν, ἀλλ' ὕστερά ταῦτα πένεσθαι,
εἰ ἐτέον γέ τι οἴσθα Διὸς τέρας αἰγιόχοιο."

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ὣς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
ἢ δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτ' Ἰθάκηδε κατήγετο νηὺς εὐεργής,
ἢ φέρε Τηλέμαχον Πηνελόπεια καὶ πάντας ἐταίρους.
οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ λιμένος πολυβευθέος ἐντὸς ἴκοντο,
νῆα μὲν οἱ γε μέλαιναν ἐπ' ἠπείροιο ἔρυσσαν,
τενύχεα δὲ σφ' ἀπένεικαν ὑπέρβημοι θεράποντες,
αὐτίκα δ' ἐς Κλυτίοιο φέρον περικαλλέα δῶρα.
αὐτὰρ κῆρυκα πρόσσαν δόμον εἰς Ὀδυσῆος,
ἠγγελίην ἐρέοντα περίφρονι Πηνελόπείῃ,
οὕνεκα Τηλέμαχος μὲν ἐπ' ἀγροῦ, νῆα δ' ἀνώγει
ἄστυδ' ἀποπλεῖν, ἵνα μὴ δαίσασ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ
ἰφθίμη βασιλεια τέρεν κατὰ δάκρυον εἴβοι.

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neither let Laertes know it, nor the swineherd, nor any of the household, nor Penelope herself; but by ourselves thou and I will learn the temper of the women. Aye, and we will likewise make trial of many a one of the serving men, and see where any of them honours us two and fears us at heart, and who recks not of us and scorns thee, a man so goodly."

Then his glorious son answered him, and said: "Father, my spirit, methinks, thou shalt verily come to know hereafter, for no slackness of will possesses me. But I think not that this plan will be a gain to us both, and so I bid thee take thought. Long time shalt thou vainly go about, making trial of each man as thou visitest the farms, while in thy halls those others at their ease are wasting thy substance in insolent wise, and there is no sparing. Yet verily, as for the women, I do bid thee learn who among them dishonour thee, and who are guiltless. But of the men in the farmsteals I would not that we should make trial, but that we should deal therewith hereafter, if in very truth thou knowest some sign from Zeus, who bears the aegis."

Thus they spoke to one another, but meanwhile into Ithaca put the well-huilt ship that brought Telemachus and all his comrades from Pylos; and they, when they had come into the deep harbour, drew the black ship up on the shore, while proud squires bore forth their armour and straightway carried the beauteous gifts to the house of Clytus. But they sent a herald forth to the house of Odysseus to bear word to wise Penelope that Telemachus was at the farm, and had bidden the ship to sail on to the city, lest the noble queen might grow anxious and let

τὼ δὲ συναντήτην κῆρυξ καὶ δῖος ὑφορβὸς
 τῆς αὐτῆς ἔνεκ' ἀγγελίης, ἐρέοντε γυναικί.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἴκοντο δόμον θείου βασιλῆος, 335
 κῆρυξ μὲν ῥα μέσησι μετὰ δμοῦσιν ἔειπεν
 "Ἦδη τοι, βασίλεια, φίλος παῖς εἰλήλουθε."

Πηνελοπείη δ' εἶπε συβώτης ἄγχι παραστάς
 πάνθ' ὅσα οἱ φίλος υἱὸς ἀνώγει μυθήσασθαι,
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ πᾶσαν ἐφημοσύνην ἀπέειπε, 340
 βῆ ῥ' ἵμεναι μεθ' ὕας, λίπε δ' ἔρκεά τε μέγαρόν τε.

Μνηστῆρες δ' ἀκάχοντο κατήφησάν τ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ,
 ἐκ δ' ἦλθον μεγάροιο παρὲκ μέγα τειχίον αὐλῆς,
 αὐτοῦ δὲ προπύροιθε θυράων ἐδριάζοντο.
 τοῖσιν δ' Εὐρύμαχος, Πολύβου παῖς, ἦρχ' ἀγορεύειν 345

"ὦ φίλοι, ἡ μέγα ἔργον ὑπερφιάλως τετέλεστα
 Τηλεμάχῳ ὁδὸς ἦδε· φάμεν δέ οἱ οὐ τελέεσθαι.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῆα μέλαιναν ἐρύσσομεν ἢ τις ἀρίστη,
 ἐς δ' ἐρέτας ἀλιῆας ὑγείρομεν, οἳ κε τάχιστα
 κείνοις ἀγγείλωσι θοῶς οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι." 350

Οὐ πῶ πάν εἴρηθ', ὅτ' ἄρ' Ἀμφίνομος ἶδε νῆα,
 στρεφθεὶς ἐκ χώρης, λιμένος πολυβενθέος ἐντός,
 ἰστία τε στέλλοντας ἐρετμὰ τε χερσὶν ἔχοντας.
 ἠδὺ δ' ἄρ' ἐκγέλασας μετεφώνεον οἷς ἐτάροισι·

"Μή τιν' ἔτ' ἀγγελίην ὀτρύνομεν· οἷδε γὰρ ἔνδον, 355
 ἢ τίς σφιν τόδ' ἔειπε θεῶν, ἢ εἰσίδον αὐτοὶ
 νῆα παρερχομένην, τὴν δ' οὐκ ἐδύναντο κειχῆναι."

Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἀνστάντες ἔβαν ἐπὶ θίνα θαλάσσης,

round tears fall. So the two met, the herald and the goodly swineherd, on the self-same errand, to bear tidings to the lady. And when they reached the palace of the godlike king, the herald spoke out in the midst of the handmaids, and said: "Even now, queen, thy son has come back from Pylos."

But the swineherd came close to Penelope and told her all that her dear son had bidden him say. And when he had fully told all that had been commanded him, he went his way to the swine and left the courtyard and the hall.

But the wooers were dismayed and downcast in spirit, and forth they went from the hall past the great wall of the court, and there before the gates they sat down. Then among them Eurymachus, son of Polybus, was the first to speak:

"My friends, verily a great deed has been insolently brought to pass by Telemachus, even this journey, and we deemed that he would never see it accomplished. But come, let us launch a black ship, the best we have, and let us get together seamen as rowers that they may straightway bear tidings to those others speedily to return home."

Not yet was the word fully uttered when Amphinomus, turning in his place, saw a ship in the deep harbour and men furling the sail, and with oars in their hands. Then, breaking into a merry laugh, he spoke among his comrades:

"Let us not be sending a message any more, for here they are at home. Either some god told them of this, or they themselves caught sight of the ship of Telemachus as she sailed by, but could not catch her."

So he spoke, and they rose up and went to the

αἶψα δὲ νῆα μέλαιναν ἐπ' ἠπείροιο ἔρυσσαν,
 τεύχεα δὲ σφ' ὑπένεικαν ὑπέρθυμοι θεράποντες. 360
 αὐτοὶ δ' εἰς ἀγορὴν κίον ἀθρόοι, οὐδέ τιν' ἄλλον
 εἶων οὔτε νέων μεταλξείν οὔτε γερόντων.
 τοῖσιν δ' Ἀντίνοος μετέφη, Εὐκλείθεος υἱός·

“ὦ πόποι, ὥς τόνδ' ἀνδρα θεοὶ κακότητος ἔλυσαν.
 ἡμᾶτα μὲν σκοποὶ ἴξον ἐπ' ἄκριας ἠνεμοέσσας 365
 αἶν' ἐπασσύτεροι· ἅμα δ' ἱελὶφ καταδύντι
 οὐ ποτ' ἐπ' ἠπείρου νύκτ' ἄσαμεν, ἀλλ' ἐνὶ πόντῳ
 νηὶ θοῇ πλείοντες ἐμίνομεν· Ἡὼ δῖαν,
 Τηλέμαχον λοχόωντες, ἵνα φθίσωμεν ἐλόντες
 αὐτόν τόν δ' ἄρα τῆος ἀπήγαγεν οἴκαδε δαίμων, 370
 ἡμεῖς δ' ἐνθάδε οἱ φραζώμεθα λυγρόν δλεθρον
 Τηλεμάχῳ, μῆδ' ἡμᾶς ὑπεκφύγοι· οὐ γὰρ οἶω
 τούτου γε ζῶντος ἀνύσσεισθαι τὰδε ἔργα.
 αὐτὸς μὲν γὰρ ἐπιστήμων βουλῇ τε νόφ τε,
 λαοὶ δ' οὐκέτι πάμπαν ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἤρα φέρουσιν. 375
 ἀλλ' ἄγετε, πρὶν κεῖνον ὀμηγυρίσασθαι Ἀχαιοὺς
 εἰς ἀγορὴν—οὐ γάρ τι μεθυσέμεναι μιν οἶω,
 ἀλλ' ἀπομηνίσει, ἐρέει δ' ἐν πᾶσιν ἀναστὰς
 οὐνεκά οἱ φόνον αἰπὺν ἐρύπτομεν οὐδ' ἐκίχημεν·
 οἱ δ' οὐκ αἰνῆσουσιν ἀκούοντες κακὰ ἔργα· 380
 μῆ τι κακὸν ῥέξωσι καὶ ἡμέας ἐξελάσωσι
 γαίης ἡμετέρης, ἄλλων δ' ἰφικώμεθα δῆμον
 ἀλλὰ φθίσωμεν ἐλπίτες ἐπ' ἀγροῦ νόσφι πόληος·
 ἢ ἐν ὁδῷ· βίστον δ' αὐτοὶ καὶ κτήματ' ἔχωμεν,
 δασσάμενοι κατὰ μοῖραν ἐφ' ἡμέας, οἰκία δ' αὐτε 385
 κείνου μῆτέρι δοῖμεν ἔχειν ἢδ' ὅστις ὀπιῖοι.

shore of the sea. Swiftly the men drew up the black ship on the shore, and proud squires bore forth their armour. Themselves meanwhile went all together to the place of assembly, and none other would they suffer to sit with them, either of the young men or the old. Then among them spoke Antinous, son of Eupitheas:

"Lo, now, see how the gods have delivered this man from destruction. Day by day watchmen sat upon the windy heights, watch ever following watch, and at set of sun we never spent a night upon the shore, but sailing over the deep in our swift ship we waited for the bright Dawn, lying in wait for Telemachus, that we might take him and slay the man himself; howbeit meanwhile some god has brought him home. But, on our part, let us here devise for him a woeful death, even for Telemachus, and let him not escape from out our hands, for I deem that while he lives this work of ours will not prosper. For he is himself shrewd in counsel and in wisdom, and the people nowise show us favour any more. Nay, come, before he gathers the Achaeans to the place of assembly—for methinks he will in no wise be slow to act, but will be full of wrath, and rising up will declare among them all how that we contrived against him utter destruction, but did not catch him; and they will not praise us when they hear of our evil deeds. Beware, then, lest they work us some harm and drive us out from our country, and we come to the land of strangers. Nay, let us act first, and seize him in the field far from the city, or on the road; and his substance let us ourselves keep, and his wealth, dividing them fairly among us; though the house we would give to his mother to possess, and to

εἰ δ' ὑμῖν ὅδε μῦθος ἀφανδάνει, ἀλλὰ βόλεσθε
 αὐτόν τε ζῶειν καὶ ἔχειν πατρώϊο πάντα,
 μή οἱ χρήματ' ἔπειτα ἄλλης θυμηδὲ ἰδωμεν
 ἐνθάδ' ἀγειρόμενοι, ἀλλ' ἐκ μεγάρου ἱκαστος 390
 μνάσθω ἰέδνοισιν διζήμενος· ἢ δέ κ' ἔπειτα
 γήμαιθ' ὅς κε πλεῖστα πόροι καὶ μόρσιμος ἔλθοι."

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πῖντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ.
 τοῖσιν δ' Ἀμφίνομος ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπε,
 Νίσου φαίδιμος υἱός, Ἀρητιάδαο ἀνακτος, 395
 ὃς ῥ' ἐκ Δουλιχίου πολυπύρου, ποιήεντος,
 ἤγχετο μνηστῆρσι, μάλιστα δὲ Πηνελόπειῃ
 ἦνδανε μύθοισι· φρεσὶ γὰρ κέχρητ' ἀγαθῆσιν
 ὃ σφιν εὐφρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·

"ὦ φίλοι, οὐκ ἂν ἐγὼ γε κατακτείνειν ἐθέλοιμι 400
 Τηλέμαχον· δεινὸν δὲ γένος βασιλῆϊόν ἐστιν
 κτείνειν· ἀλλὰ πρῶτα θεῶν εἰρώμεθα βουλὰς.
 εἰ μὲν κ' αἰνήσωσι Διὸς μεγάλου θεμίστες,
 αὐτὸς τε κτενέω τοὺς τ' ἄλλους πῖντας ἀνώξω·
 εἰ δέ κ' ἀποτρῴπῳσι θεοὶ παύσασθαι ἄνωγα." 405

"Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀμφίνομος, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος.
 αὐτίκ' ἔπειτ' ἀνστάντες ἔβαν δόμον εἰς Ὀδυσῆος,
 ἐλθόντες δὲ καθίζον ἐπὶ ξεστοῖσι θρόνοισιν.

"Ἡ δ' αὖτ' ἄλλ' ἐνόησε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
 μνηστῆρεςσι φανῆναι ὑπέρβιον ὕβριν ἔχουσι. 410
 πεύθετο γὰρ οὐ παιδὸς ἐνὶ μεγάρουσιν ὄλεθρον
 κῆρυξ γὰρ οἱ ἔειπε Μίδων, ὃς ἐπέυθετο βουλὰς.
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι μέγαρόνδε σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξίν.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ μνηστῆρος ἀφίκετο διὰ γυναικῶν,

him who weds her. Howbeit if this plan does not please you, but you choose rather that he should live and keep all the wealth of his fathers, let na not continue to devour his store of pleasant things as we gather together here, but let each man from his own hall woo her with his gifts and seek to win her; and she then would wed him who offers most, and who comes as her fated lord."

So he spoke, and they were all hushed in silence. Then Amphinomus addressed their assembly, and spoke among them. He was the glorious son of the prince Nisus, son of Aretias, and he led the wooers who came from Dulichium, rich in wheat and in grass, and above all the others he pleased Penelope with his words, for he had an understanding heart. He it was who with good intent addressed their assembly, and spoke among them:

"Friends, I surely would not choose to kill Telemachus; a dread thing is it to slay one of royal stock. Nay, let us first seek to learn the will of the gods. If the oracles of great Zeus approve, I will myself slay him, and bid all the others do so; but if the gods turn us from the act, I bid you desist."

Thus spoke Amphinomus, and his word was pleasing to them. So they arose straightway and went to the house of Odysseus, and entering in, sat down on the polished seats.

Then the wise Penelope took other counsel, to show herself to the wooers, overweening in their insolence. For she had learned of the threatened death of her son in her halls, for the herald Medon told her, who had heard their counsel. So she went her way toward the hall with her handmaids. But when the fair lady reached the wooers, she stood by the

στή ῥα παρὰ σταθμὸν τέγεος πύκα ποιητοῖο, 415
 ἄντα παρειάων σχομένη λιπαρὰ κρήδεμνα,
 Ἄντιφρον δ' ἐνέειπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἕκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·

“Ἄντιν’ ὄβριον ἔχων, κακομήχανε, καὶ δέ σέ φασιν
 ἐν δῆμῳ Ἰθάκης μεθ’ ὀμήλικας ἔμμεν ἄριστον
 βουλῇ καὶ μύθοισι· σὺ δ’ οὐκ ὄρα τοῖος ἔησθα. 420

μάργε, τίη δέ σὺ Τηλεμάχῳ θάνατόν τε μόρον τε
 ῥάπτεις, οὐδ’ ἰκέτας ἐμπάζεις, οἷσιν ἄρα Ζεὺς
 μάρτυρος; οὐδ’ ὁσίη κατὰ ῥάπτειν ἁλλήλοισιν.

ἢ οὐκ οἶσθ’ ὅτε δεῦρο πατήρ τεός Ἰκετο φεῦγων,
 δῆμον ὑποδείσας; δὴ γὰρ κεχολώατο λῆν, 425
 οὐνεκα ληϊστήρσιν ἐπισπόμενος Ταφίοισιν

ἦκαχε Θεσπρωτοὺς· οἱ δ’ ἡμῖν ἄρθμοι ἦσαν·
 τὸν β’ ἐβελον φθίσαι καὶ ἀπορραΐσαι φίλον ἦτορ
 ἠδὲ κατὰ ζωὴν φαγείν μενοικία πολλήν·

ἰλλ’ Ὀδυσσεὺς κατέρυκε καὶ ἔσχεθεν ἱεμένους περ. 430
 τοῦ νῦν οἶκον ἄτιμον ἴδεις, μνάα δὲ γυναῖκα
 παῖδά τ’ ἀποκτείνεις, ἐμὲ δὲ μεγάλως ἀκαχίζεις·

ἁλλὰ σε παύσασθαι κέλομαι καὶ ἠνωγέμεν ἄλλους.”

Τὴν δ’ αὖτ’ Εὐρύμαχος, Πολύβου παῖς, ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 “Κοῦρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρον Πηνελόπεια, 435

θάρσει· μή τοι ταῦτα μετὰ φρεσὶ σῆσι μελόντων.

οὐκ ἔσθ’ οὗτος ἀνὴρ οὐδ’ ἔσσεται οὐδὲ γένηται,

ὅς κεν Τηλεμάχῳ σφ’ υἱεὶ χεῖρας ἐποίσει

ζῶοντός γ’ ἐμέθεν καὶ ἐπὶ χθονὶ δερκομένοιο.

ὦδε γὰρ ἐξερῶ, καὶ μὴν τετελεσμένον ἔσται· 440

αἰψά οἱ αἷμα κελαινὸν ἐρώησει περὶ δουρὶ

ἡμετέρῳ, ἐπεὶ ἢ καὶ ἐμὲ πτολίπορθος Ὀδυσσεὺς

πολλάκι γούνασιν οἷσιν ἐφασσάμενος κρέας ὀπτὸν

doorpost of the well-built hall, holding before her face her shining veil; and she rebuked Antinous, and spoke, and addressed him:

"Antinous, full of insolence, deviser of evil! and yet it is thou, men say, that dost excel among all of thy years in the land of Ithaca in counsel and in speech. But thou, it seems, art not such a man. Madman! why dost thou devise death and fate for Telemachus, and carest not for suppliants, for whom Zeus is witness. 'Tis an impious thing to plot evil one against another. Dost thou not know of the time when thy father came to this house a fugitive in terror of the people? For of a truth they were greatly wroth with him because he had joined Taphian pirates and harried the Thesprotians, who were in league with us. Him, then, they were minded to slay, and take from him his life by violence, and utterly to devour his great and pleasant livelihood; but Odysseus held them back, and stayed them despite their eagerness. His house it is that thou consumest now without atonement, and wooest his wife, and seekest to slay his son, and on me thou bringest great distress. Nay, forbear, I charge thee, and bid the rest forbear."

Then Eurymachus, son of Polybus, answered her: "Daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, be of good cheer, and let not these things distress thy heart. That man lives not, nor shall live, nor shall ever be born, who shall lay hands upon thy son Telemachus while I live and behold the light upon the earth. For thus will I speak out to thee, and verily it shall be brought to pass. Quickly shall that man's black blood flow forth about my spear; for of a truth me, too, did Odysseus the sacker of cities often set upon his

ἐν χεῖρεσσιν ἔθηκεν, ἐπέσχε τε οἶνον ἱρυθρόν.
 τῷ μοι Τηλέμαχος πάντων πολὺν φίλτατός ἐστιν 445
 ἀνδρῶν, οὐδέ τί μιν θάνατον τρομέεσθαι ἀνωγα
 ἔκ γε μνηστήρων θεόθεν δ' οὐκ ἔστι' ἀλέασθαι."

ὣς φάτο θαρσύνων, τῷ δ' ἤρτυεν αὐτὸς ὀλεθρον.
 ἢ μὲν ἄρ' εἰσαναβᾶσ' ὑπερώϊα σιγαλόεντα
 κλαῖεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα, φίλον πόσιν, ὅφρα οἱ ὕπνον 450
 ἦδὺν ἐπὶ βλεφάροισι βάλλε γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.

Ἦσπέριος δ' Ὀδυσῆϊ καὶ υἱέϊ δῖος ὕφορβος
 ἦλυθεν· οἱ δ' ἄρα δόρπον ἐπιστάδων ὠπλίζοντο,
 σὺν ἱερεύσαντες ἐνιαύσιον. αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη,
 ἀγχι παρισταμένη, Λαερτιάδην Ὀδυσῆα 455
 ῥάβδῳ πεπληγυῖα πάλιν ποίησε γέροντα,
 λυγρὰ δὲ εἴματα ἔσσε περὶ χροῖ, μή εἰ συβώτης
 γνοίη ἑσάντα ἰδὼν καὶ ἐχέφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ
 ἔλθοι ἀπαγγέλλων μηδὲ φρεσὶν εἰρύσσαιτο.

Τὸν καὶ Τηλέμαχος πρότερος πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν· 460
 "Ἦλθες, δῖ' Εὐμαίε. τί δὴ κλέος ἔστ' ἀνὰ ἄστν;
 ἢ ῥ' ἤδη μνηστῆρες ὠγήφορες ἔνδον ἔασιν
 ἐκ λόχου, ἢ ἔτι μ' αὐτ' εἰρύαται οἴκαδ' ἰόντα;"

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα·
 "Οὐκ ἔμελλέν μοι ταῦτα μεταλλῆσαι καὶ ἐρέσθαι 465
 ἄστν καταβλώσκοντα· τᾶχιστα μὲ θυμὸς ἀνώγει
 ἀγγελίην εἰπόντα πάλιν δεῦρ' ἀποινέεσθαι.
 ὠμήρησε δέ μοι παρ' ἑταίρων ἀγγελως ὠκύς,
 κῆρυξ, ὅς δὴ πρῶτος ἔπος σῇ μητρὶ ἔειπεν.
 ἄλλο δέ τοι τό γε οἶδα· τὸ γὰρ ἶδον ὀφθαλμοῖσιν. 470
 ἦδη ὑπὲρ πύλιος, ὅθι θ' Ἑρμαιοὺς λύφος ἐστίν,

knees, and put roast meat in my hands, and hold to my lips red wine. Therefore Telemachus is far the dearest of all men to me, and I bid him have no fear of death, at least from the wooers; but from the gods can no man avoid it."

Thus he spoke to cheer her, but against that son he was himself plotting death. So she went up to her bright upper chamber and then bewailed Odysseus, her dear husband, until flashing-eyed Athene cast sweet sleep upon her eyelids.

But at evening the goodly swineherd came back to Odysseus and his son, and they were busily making ready their supper, and had slain a boar of a year old. Then Athene came close to Odysseus, son of Laertes, and smote him with her wand, and again made him an old man; and mean while she put about his body, lest the swineherd might look upon him and know him, and might go to bear tidings to constant Penelope, and not hold the secret fast in his heart.

Now Telemachus spoke first to the swineherd, and said: "Thou hast come, goodly Eumæus. What news is there in the city? Have the proud wooers by this time come home from their ambush, or are they still watching for me where they were, to take me on my homeward way?"

To him, then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer and say: "I was not minded to go about the city, asking and enquiring of this; my heart bade me with all speed to come back hither when I had given my message. But there joined me a swift messenger from thy companions, a herald, who was the first to tell the news to thy mother. And this further thing I know, for I saw it with my eyes. I was now above the city, as I went on my way, where

ἦα κίων, ὅτε νῆα θοὴν ἰδόμην κατιούσαν
 εἰς λιμέν' ἡμέτερον· πολλοὶ δ' ἔσαν ἄνδρες ἐν αὐτῇ,
 βεβρίθει δὲ σάκεσσι καὶ ἔγχεσιν ἀμφιγύοισι·
 καὶ σφίεας ὠίσθην τοὺς ἔμμεναι, οὐδέ τι οἶδα." 475

Ἄρ' οὖν φάτο, μείδησεν δ' ἱερὴ ἱς Τηλεμάχοιο
 εἰς πατέρ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἰδὼν, ἄλκιυε δ' ὑφορβόν.

(Οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν παύσαντο πόνου τετύκοντό τε δαῖτα,
 δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς εἰδέετο δαιτὸς εἰσης.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο, 480
 κοίτου τε μνήσαντο καὶ ὕπνου δῶρον ἔλοντο.

the hill of Hermes is, when I saw a swift ship putting into our harbour, and there were many men in her, and she was laden with shields and double-pointed spears. And I thought it was they, but I have no knowledge."

So he spoke, and the strong and mighty Telemachus smiled and with his eyes he glanced at his father, but shunned the swineherd's eye.

And when they had ceased from their labour and had made ready the meal, they fell to feasting, nor did their hearts lack aught of the equal feast. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, they bethought them of rest, and took the gift of sleep.

Ἦμος δ' ἠριγένεια φάνη βοδοδάκτυλος Ἥώς,
 δὴ τότ' ἐπειθ' ὑπὸ ποσσὶν ἐδήσατο καλὰ πέδιλα
 Τηλέμαχος, φίλος υἱὸς Ὀδυσσῆος θεόιο,
 εἶλετο δ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος, ὃ οἱ παλὶμψιν ἀρήρει,
 ἄστυδε ἰέμενος, καὶ ἔδν προσέειπε συβώτην·

5

“Ἄττ', ἦ τοι μὲν ἐγὼν εἰμ' ἰς πόλιν, ὅφρα με μήτηρ
 ὄψεται· οὐ γάρ μιν πρόσθεν παύσεσθαι οἶω
 κλαυθμοῦ τε στυγεροῖο γόοιό τε δακρυόεντος,
 πρὶν γ' αὐτόν με ἴδῃται· ἀτὰρ σοί γ' ᾧδ' ἐπιτέλλω.
 τὸν ξεῖνον δύστηνον ἄγ' ἰς πόλιν, ὅφρ' ἂν ἐκείθι
 δαῖτα πτωχεύῃ· δώσει δέ οἱ δς κ' ἐθέλῃσι
 πύρνον καὶ κοτύλην· ἐμὲ δ' οὐ πῶς ἔστιν ἅπαντας
 ἀνθρώπους ἀνέχεσθαι, ἔχοντά περ ἄλγεια θυμῷ.
 ὁ ξεῖνος δ' εἰ περ μῖλα μηνίει, ἄλγιον αὐτῷ
 ἔσσεται· ἦ γὰρ ἐμοὶ φίλ' ἀληθέα μυθήσασθαι.”

15

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμῃτις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “ὦ φίλος, οὐδέ τοι αὐτὸς ἐρύκεισθαι μενεαίνω·
 πτωχῷ βέλτερόν ἐστι κατὰ πτόλιν ἢ κατ' ἀγροῦς
 δαῖτα πτωχεύειν· δώσει δέ μοι δς κ' ἐθέλῃσιν.
 οὐ γὰρ ἐπὶ σταθμοῖσι μένειν ἔτι τηλέκος εἰμί.
 ὥστ' ἐπιτεταμένῳ σημάντορι πάντα πιθέσθαι.
 ἀλλ' ἔρχιν· ἐμὲ δ' ἄξει ἀνὴρ ὅδε, τὸν σὺ κελεύεις,
 αὐτίκ' ἐπεὶ κε πυρὸς θερπῶ ἀλήη τε γένηται.
 αἰνῶς γὰρ τάδε εἶματ' ἔχω κακά· μὴ με δαμάσση
 στίβῃ ὑπηοιῇ· ἔκαθεν δέ τε ἄστυ φάτ' εἶναι.”

25

BOOK XVII

As soon as early Dawn appeared, the rosy-fingered, Telemachus, the dear son of divine Odysseus, bound beneath his feet his fair sandals and took his mighty spear, that fitted his grasp, hasting to the city; and he spoke to his swiftherd, saying:

"Father, I verily am going to the city, that my mother may see me, for, methinks, she will not cease from woeful wailing and tearful lamentation until she sees my very self. But to thee I give this charge. Lead this wretched stranger to the city, that there he may beg his food, and whose will shall give him a loaf and a cup of water. For my part, I can in no wise burden myself with all men, seeing that I have grief at heart. But if the stranger is sore angered at this, it will be the worse for him. I verily love to speak the truth."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Friend, be sure I am not myself fain to be left here. For a beggar it is better to beg his food in the town than in the fields, and whose will shall give it me. For I am no more of an age to remain at the farmstead, so as to obey in all things the command of an overseer. Nay, go thy way; this man that thou biddest will lead me as soon as I have warmed myself at the fire, and the sun has grown hot. For miserably poor are these garments which I wear, and I fear lest the morning frost may overcome me; and ye say it is far to the city."

Ὦς φάτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ διὰ σταθμοῖο βεβήκει,
 κραιπνὰ ποσὶ προβιβάζε, κακὰ δὲ μνηστήρσιν φύτευεν.
 αὐτὰρ ἔπει ῥ' ἔκανε δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας,
 ἔγχος μὲν ῥ' ἔστησε φέρων πρὸς κίονα μακρὴν,
 αὐτὸς δ' εἰσω ἔεν καὶ ὑπέρβη λῆϊνον οὐδόν. 30

Τὸν δὲ πολὺ πρώτη εἶδε τροφὸς Κῆρύκλεια,
 κώϊα καστορνύσα θρόνοισι ἐνὶ δαιδαλίοισι,
 δακρύσασα δ' ἔπειτ' ἰθὺς κίεν· ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ἄλλαι
 δμῶαί Ὀδυσσῆος ταλασίφρονος ἡγερέθοντο,
 καὶ κύνεον ἀγαπαζόμεναι κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ὦμον. 35

Ἢ δ' ἔεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
 Ἀρτέμιδι ἱκέλη ἢ χρυσῇ Ἀφροδίτῃ,
 ἀμφὶ δὲ παιδὶ φίλῳ βάλε πῆχυν δακρύσασα,
 κύσσει δὲ μιν κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ἀμφὶ φάεα καλὴ,
 καὶ ῥ' ὀλοφυρομένη ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα· 40

“Ἦλθες, Τηλέμαχε, γλυκερὸν φάος. οὐ σ' ἔτ' ἐγὼ γε
 ὄψεσθαι ἐφάμην, ἐπεὶ ὤχεο νηὶ Πύλωνδε
 λάθρῃ, ἐμεῦ ἀέκητι, φίλου μετὰ πατρὸς ἀκονίῃ.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι καταλέξον ὅπως ἤντησας ὅπωπῆς.”

Τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα· 45
 “Μῆτερ ἐμή, μή μοι γόον ὄρνυθι μηδὲ μοι ἦτορ
 ἐν στήθεσσιν ὄρειν φεγγόντι περ αἰπὴν δλεθρον·
 ἀλλ' ὕδρηνά μιν, καθαρὰ χροὶ εἴμαθ' ἑλοῦσα,
 εἰς ὑπερῷ ἀναβάσας σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξίν¹
 εὐχέο πᾶσι θεοῖσι τεληέσσας ἑκατόμβας 50
 ῥέξειν, αἱ κέ ποθι Ζεὺς ἀντιτα ἔργα τελέσσει.
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἀγορὴν ἐσελεύσομαι, ὅφρα καλέσσω
 ξεῖνον, ὅτις μοι κεῖθεν ἄμ' ἔσπετο δεῦρο κίοντι.
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ προὔπεμψα σὺν ἀντιθέοις ἐτάροισι,

¹ Line 49 is omitted in some MSS., and in others is placed after line 51.

So he spoke, and Telemachus passed out through the farmstead with rapid strides, and was sowing the seeds of evil for the wooers. But when he came to the stately house he set his spear in place, leaning it against a tall pillar, and himself went in and crossed the threshold of alone.

Him the nurse Eurycleia was far the first to see, as she was spreading fleeces on the richly-wrought chairs. With a burst of tears she came straight toward him, and round about them gathered the other maids of Odysseus of the steadfast heart, and they kissed his head and shoulders in loving welcome.

Then forth from her chamber came wise Penelope, like unto Artemis or golden Aphrodite, and bursting into tears she flung her arms about her dear son, and kissed his head and both his beautiful eyes; and with wailing she spoke to him winged words:

"Thou art come, Telemachus, sweet light of my eyes; I thought I should never see thee more after thou hadst gone in thy ship to Pylos—secretly, and in my despite, to seek tidings of thy dear father. Come, then, tell me what sight thou hadst of him."

Then wise Telemachus answered her: "My mother, stir not lamentation, I pray thee, nor rouse the heart in my breast, seeing that I am escaped from utter destruction. Nay, hate thyself, and take clean raiment for thy body, and then, going to thy upper chamber with thy handmaids, vow to all the gods that thou wilt offer hecatombs that bring fulfilment, in the hope that Zeus may some day bring deeds of requital to pass. But I will go to the place of assembly that I may bid to our house a stranger who followed me from Pylos on my way hither. Him I sent forward with my godlike comrades, and I bade

Πείραιον δέ μιν ἠνώγεα προτὶ οἶκον ἄγοντα 55
ἐνδυκίως φιλέειν καὶ τίμεν, εἰς ὃ κεν ἔλθω."

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν, τῇ δ' ἄπτερος ἐπλετο μῦθος.
ἣ δ' ὑδρηναμένη, καθαρὰ χροὶ εἵμαθ' ἐλοῦσα,
εὖχετο πᾶσι θεοῖσι τεληέσσας ἐκατόμβας
ῥέξειν, αἱ κέ ποθι Ζεὺς ἄντιτα ἔργα τελέσσει. 60

Τηλέμαχος δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα διέκ μεγάροιο βεβήκει
ἔγχος ἔχων· ἅμα τῷ γε δύο κύνες¹ ἀργαὶ ἔποντο.
θεσπεσίην δ' ἄρα τῷ γε χάριν κατέχευεν Ἀθήνη·
τὸν δ' ἄρα πάντες λαοὶ ἐπερχόμενον θηεῖντο.
ἅμφι δέ μιν μνηστῆρες ἀγῆτορες ἠγερθεῖντο 65
ἔσθλ' ἀγορεύοντες, κακὰ δὲ φρεσὶ βυσσοδόμενον.
αὐτὰρ ὁ τῶν μὲν ἔπειτα ἀλεύατο πουλὺν ὄμιλον,
ἀλλ' ἵνα Μέντωρ ἦσθ' καὶ Ἀντιφός τ' ἦδ' Ἀλιθέρσης,
οἳ τε οἱ ἐξ ἀρχῆς πατρῷοι ἦσαν ἱταῖροι,
ἐνθα καθίξεν ἰὼν· τοὶ δ' ἐξερέεινον ἕκαστα. 70
τοῖσι δὲ Πείραιος δουρικλυτὸς ἐγγύθεν ἦλθεν
ξείνον ἄγων ἀγορήνδε διὰ πτόλιν· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔτι δὴν
Τηλέμαχος ξείνοιο ἐκὰς τρύπεται, ἀλλὰ παρέστη.
τὸν καὶ Πείραιος πρότερος πρὸς μῦθον εἶπε·

"Τηλέμαχ', αἰψ' ὄτρυνον ἐμὸν ποτὶ δῶμα γυναικάς,
ὥς τοι δῶρ' ἀποπέμψω, ἃ τοι Μενέλαος ἔδωκε." 75

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦ᾽ ἔειπε·
"Πείραι', οὐ γάρ τ' ἴδμεν ὅπως ἔσται τάδε ἔργα.
εἰ κεν ἐμὲ μνηστῆρες ἀγῆτορες ἐν μεγάροισι
λάβρῃ κτείναντες πατρῷα πάντα δάσωνται, 80
αὐτὸν ἔχοντί σε βούλομ' ἐπαυρέμεν, ἢ τινα τῶνδε·

¹ δύο κύνες: κύνες ἑτάς; cf. II. II.

Peiræus take him home and give him kindly welcome, and show him honour until I should come."

So he spoke, but her word remained unwinged.¹ Then she bathed and took clean raiment for her body, and vowed to all the gods that she would offer hecatombs that bring fulfilment, in the hope that Zeus would some day bring deeds of requital to pass.

But Telemachus thereafter went forth through the hall with his spear in his hand, and with him went two swift hounds. And wondrous was the grace that Athene shed upon him, and all the people marvelled at him as he came. Round about him the proud wooers thronged, speaking him fair, but pondering evil in the deep of their hearts. Howbeit he avoided the great throng of these men, but where Mentor sat, and Antiphus, and Halitherses, who were friends of his father's house from of old, there he went and sat down, and they questioned him of each thing. Then Peiræus, the famous spearman, drew near, leading the stranger through the city to the place of assembly; and Telemachus did not long turn away from his guest, but went up to him. Then Peiræus was the first to speak, saying:

"Telemachus, quickly send women to my house, that I may send to thee the gifts which Menelaus gave thee."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Peiræus, we know not how these things will be. If the proud wooers shall secretly slay me in my hall, and divide among them all the goods of my fathers, I would that thou shouldst keep and enjoy these things thyself rather than one of these. But if I shall sow

¹ That is, she made no reply.

εἰ δέ κ' ἐγὼ τούτοις φόνον καὶ κῆρα φυτεύσω,
δὴ τότε μοι χαίροντι φέρειν πρὸς δῶματα χαίρων·"

Ἄς εἰπὼν ξεῖνον ταλαπεῖριον ἤγεν εἰς οἶκον.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἴκοντο δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας, 85
χλαίνας μὲν κατέθεντο κατὰ κλισμοῖς τε θρόνους τε,
ἐς δ' ἄσαμνθους βάντες ἐϋξίστας λούσαντα.
τοῖς δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν δμῳαὶ λούσαν καὶ χρῖσαν ἐλαίῳ,
ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρα χλαίνας οὔλας βύλον ἠδὲ χιτῶνας,
ἐκ ῥ' ἄσαμνθων βάντες ἐπὶ κλισμοῖσι καθίζον, 90
χέρνιβα δ' ἀμφίπολος προχόῳ ἐπέχευε φέρουσα
καλῇ χρυσείῃ, ὑπὲρ ἀργυρέοιο λέβητος,
νίψασθαι· παρὰ δὲ ξεστὴν ἐτάνυσσε τράπεζαν,
σίτον δ' αἰδοίῃ ταμὴν παρέθηκε φέρουσα,
εἶδατα πόλλ' ἐπιθεῖσα, χαριζομένη παρεόντων· 95
μῆτηρ δ' ἀντίον ἴξε παρὰ σταθμὸν μεγάρῳ
κλισμῷ κεκλιμένη, λέπτ' ἡλίκατα στρωφῶσα.
οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,
τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἤρχε περίφρων Πηλεόπεια· 100

"Τηλέμαχ', ἦ τοι ἐγὼν ὑπεραίον εἰσαναβῶσα
λέξομαι εἰς εὐνὴν, ἥ μοι στονόεσσα τέτυκται.
αἰεὶ δάκρυς' ἐμοῖσι πεφυρμένη, ἐξ οὗ Ὀδυσσεύς
ᾤχεσθ' ἀμ' Ἀτρεΐδῃσιν εἰς Ἴλιον· οὐδέ μοι ἔτλης,
πρὶν ἐλθεῖν μνηστήρας ὑγῆνορας εἰς τόδε δῶμα, 105
νόστον σοῦ πατρὸς σάφα εἰπέμεν, εἴ που ἄκουσας·"

Τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἠΰδα·
"Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, μῆτερ, ἀληθεῖην καταλέξω·
ᾤχόμεθ' ἔς τε Πύλον καὶ Νέστορα, ποιμένα λαῶν·
δεξάμενος δέ με κείνος ἐν ὑψηλοῖσι δόμοισιν 110

for them the seeds of death and fate, then do thou bring all to my house gladly, as I shall be glad."

So saying, he led the sore-tried stranger to the house. Now when they had come to the stately house they laid their cloaks on the chairs and high seats, and went into the polished baths and bathed. And when the maids had bathed them and anointed them with oil, and had cast about them fleecy cloaks and tunics, they came forth from the baths and sat down upon the chairs. Then a handmaid brought water for the hands in a fair pitcher of gold, and poured it over a silver basin for them to wash, and beside them drew up a polished table. And the grave housewife brought and set before them bread, and therewith meats in abundance, granting freely of her store. And his mother sat over against Telemachus by the door-post of the hall, leaning against a chair and spinning fine threads of yarn. So they put forth their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, the wise Penelope spoke first among them:

"Telemachus, I truly will go to my upper chamber and lay me on my bed, which has become for me a bed of wailing, ever wet with my tears, since the day when Odysseus set forth with the sons of Atreus for Ilios. But thou tookest no care, before the proud wooers come into this house, to tell me plainly of the return of thy father, if haply thou heardest aught."

And wise Telemachus answered her: "Then verily, mother, I will tell thee all the truth. We went to Pylus and to Nestor, the shepherd of the people, and he received me in his lofty house and

ἐνδυκίως ἐφίλει, ὥς εἰ τε πατὴρ ἐὼν υἷδν
 ἐλθόντα χρόνιον νέον ἄλλοθεν· ὥς ἐμὲ κείνος
 ἐνδυκίως ἐκόμιζε σὺν νιάσι κυδαλίμοισιν.

αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς ταλασίφρονος οὐ ποτ' ἔφασκεν,
 ζωῷ οὐδὲ θανόντος, ἐπιχθονίων τευ ἀκοῦσαι·
 ἀλλὰ μ' ἐς Ἀτρεΐδην, δουρικλειτὸν Μενέλαον,
 ἱπποισι προὔπεμψε καὶ ἄρμασι κολλητοῖσιν.

115

ἐνθ' ἰδὼν Ἀργεῖην Ἑλένην, ἧς εἵνεκα πολλὰ
 Ἀργεῖοι Τρώες τε θεῶν ἰότητι μόγησαν,¹
 εἶρετο δ' αὐτίκ' ἔπειτα βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος

120

ὅττιν χρηίζων ἰκόμην Λακεδαιμόνα διὰν·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τῇ πᾶσαν ἀληθείην κατέλεξα·
 καὶ τότε δὴ με ἔπεισιν ἄμειβόμενος προσέειπεν·

“ὦ πόποι, ἦ μάλα δὴ κρατερόφρονος ἀνδρὸς ἐν εὐνῇ
 ἤθελον εὐνηθῆναι, ἀνάλειδες αὐτοὶ ἔοντες.

125

ὥς δ' ὁπότε ἐν ξυλόχῳ ἔλαφος κρατεροῖο λέοντος
 νεβροῖς κοιμήσασα νεηγεῖας γαλαθηνούς
 κνημοῖς ἐξερεῖσι καὶ ἄγκυα ποιήεντα

βοσκομένη, ὃ δ' ἔπειτα ἐὼν εἰσῆλυθεν εὐνήν,
 ἀμφοτέροισι δὲ τοῖσιν ἰεϊκέα πότμον ἐφῆκεν,

130

ὥς Ὀδυσσεὺς κείνοισιν ἰεϊκέα πότμον ἐφῆσει.
 αἱ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πύτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίῃ καὶ Ἀπολλων,

τοῖος ἐὼν οἷός ποτ' ἐνυκτιμένη ἐνὶ λίσσῳ
 ἐξ ἔριδος Φιλομηλεῖῃ ἐπύλαισεν ἱναστάς,

καὶ δ' ἔβαλε κρατερῶς, κεχάροντο δὲ πάντες Ἀχαιοί,²
 τοῖος ἐὼν μνηστῆρσιν ὁμλήσειεν Ὀδυσσεύς·

135

πάντες κ' ὠκύμοροι τε γενοίατο πικρόγαμοί τε.
 ταῦτα δ' ἃ μ' εἰρωτᾷς καὶ λίσσσαι, οὐκ ἂν ἐγὼ γε

ἄλλα παρέξ εἵποιμι παρατελιδὸν οὐδ' ἱπατήσω,
 ἄλλὰ τὰ μὲν μοι εἶπε γέρων ἄλιος νημερτής,

140

τῶν οὐδέν τοι ἐγὼ κρύψω ἔπος οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω.
¹ καὶ δὲ . . . μέγας . . . ἄλλος.

gave me kindly welcome, as a father might his own son who after a long time had newly come from afar: even so kindly he tended me with his glorious sons. Yet of Odysseus of the steadfast heart, whether living or dead, he said he had heard naught from any man on earth. But he sent me on my way with horses and jointed car to Menelaus, son of Atreus, the famous spearman. There I saw Argive Helen, for whose sake Argives and Trojans toiled much by the will of the gods. And straightway Menelaus, good at the war-cry, asked me in quest of what I had come to goodly Lacedæmon; and I told him all the truth. Then he made answer to me, and said:

"Out upon them! for verily in the bed of a man of valiant heart were they fain to lie, who are themselves cravens. Even as when in the thicket-lair of a mighty lion a hind has laid to sleep her new-born suckling fawns, and roams over the mountain slopes and grassy vales seeking pasture, and then the lion comes to his lair and upon the two lets loose a cruel doom, so will Odysseus let loose a cruel doom upon these men. I would, O father Zeus, and Athene, and Apollo, that in such strength, as when once in fair-established Lesbos he rose up and wrestled a match with Philomeleides and threw him mightily, and all the Achæans rejoiced, even in such strength Odysseus might come among the wooers; then should they all find swift destruction and bitterness in their wooing. But in this matter of which thou dost ask and entreat me, verily I will not swerve aside to speak of other things, nor will I deceive thee; but of all that the unerring old man of the sea told me, not one thing

φῆ μιν δ' ὅ γ' ἐν νῆσφ' ἰδέειν κρατέρ' ἄλγε' ἔχοντα,
 νυμφῆς ἐν μεγάροισι Καλυψοῦς, ἥ μιν ἀνέγκη
 ἴσχει· ὁ δ' οὐ δύναται ἦν πατρίδα γαίαν ἰκέσθαι.
 οὐ γάρ οἱ πύρα νῆες ἐπήρετμοι καὶ ἱταῖροι,
 οἳ κέν μιν πέμπουσιν ἐπ' εὐρέα νῶτα θαλάσσης.¹

143

“Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀτρεΐδης, δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος.
 ταῦτα τελευτήσας νεόμην· ἔδοσαν δέ μοι οὖρον
 ἀθάνατοι, τοί μ' ὦκα φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἐπεμψαν.”

Ἄς φῆτο, τῇ δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι δρινε.
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε Θεοκλῦμενος θεοειδής·

150

“ὦ γύναι αἰδοίη Λαερτιάδῃσιν Ὀδυσῆος,
 ἦ τοι δ' ὅ γ' οὐ σάφα οἶδεν, ἐμεῖο δὲ αὖθρο μῦθον
 ἀτρεκέως γάρ σοι μαντεύσομαι οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω.
 ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς πρῶτα θεῶν, ξενίῃ τε τράπεζα
 ἰστίῃ τ' Ὀδυσῆος ὑμῦμονος, ἦν ἀφικάνω,

155

ὥς ἦ τοι Ὀδυσεὺς ἤδη ἐν πατρίδι γαίῃ,
 ἤμενος ἢ ἔρπων, τάδε πευθόμενος κακὰ ἔργα,
 ἔστιν, ἅτῃ μνηστῆρσι κακὸν πάντεσσιν φυτεύει·
 τοῖον ἐγὼν οἰωνὸν ἐῦσαλμου ἐπὶ νηὶς
 ἤμενος ἐφρασάμην καὶ Τηλεμάχῳ ἐγγώνευν.”

160

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·

“Αἶ γὰρ τοῦτο, ξεῖνε, ἔπος τετελεσμένον εἶη·
 τῷ κε τίχα γνοίης φιλότῃτά τε πολλὰ τε δῶρα
 ἐξ ἐμεῦ, ὥς ἂν τίς σε συναντῶμενος μακαρίζῃ.”²

165

Ἄς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
 μνηστῆρες δὲ πύρριθεν Ὀδυσσῆος μεγάροιο
 δίσκοισιν τέρποντο καὶ αἰγανέρεσιν ἴντες.

¹ Lines 152-65 were rejected in antiquity.

will I hide from thee or conceal. He said that he had seen Odysseus in an island in grievous distress, in the halls of the nymph Calypso, who keeps him there perforce. And he cannot come to his own native land, for he has at hand no ships with oars, and no comrades, to send him on his way over the broad back of the sea.'

"So spoke Menelaus, son of Atreus, the famous spearman. Now when I had made an end of all this I set out for home, and the immortals gave me a fair wind and brought me quickly to my dear native land."

So he spoke, and stirred the heart in her breast. Then among them spoke also the godlike Theoclymenus, saying:

"Honoured wife of Odysseus, son of Laertes, he truly has no clear understanding; but do thou hearken to my words, for with certain knowledge will I prophesy to thee, and will hide naught. Be my witness Zeus above all gods, and this hospitable board and the hearth of noble Odysseus to which I am come, that verily Odysseus is even now in his native land, resting or moving, learning of these evil deeds, and he is sowing the seeds of evil for all the wooers. So plain a bird of omen did I mark as I sat on the benched ship, and I declared it to Telemachus."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Ah, stranger, I would that this word of thine might be fulfilled. Then shouldest thou straightway know of kindness and many a gift from me, so that one who met thee would call thee blessed."

Thus they spoke to one another. And the wooers meanwhile in front of the palace of Odysseus were making merry, throwing the discus and the javelin

ἐν τυκτῷ δαπέδῳ, ὅθι περ πάρος ὕβριον ἔχοντες,
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ δειπνηστος ἦν καὶ ἐπήλυθε μῆλα 170
 πάντοθεν ἐξ ἀγρῶν, οἳ δ' ἤγαγον οἱ τὸ πάρος περ,
 καὶ τότε δὴ σφιν εἶπε Μένδων· δε γυρ βα μάλιστα
 ἦνδανε κηρύκων, καὶ σφιν παρεγγίνετο δαιτί·

“Κοῦροι, ἐπεὶ δὴ πάντες ἐτέρφθητε φρέν' ἀέθλοις,
 ἔρχεσθε πρὸς δῶμαθ', ἵν' ἐντυνώμεθα δαῖτα· 175
 οὐ μὲν γάρ τι χέρειον ἐν ᾧρῃ δεῖπνον ἐλίσθαι.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἀνστάντες ἔβαν πείθοντό τε μύθῳ.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἴκοντο δόμους εὐ ναιομένονας,
 χλαῖνας μὲν κατέθεντο κατὰ κλισμούς τε θρόνους τε,
 οἳ δ' ἱέρευον δις μεγάλους καὶ πίονας αὔγας, 180
 ἱρευνον δὲ σύας σιάλους καὶ βοῦν ἀγελαίην,¹
 δαῖτ' ἐντυνόμενοι. τοὶ δ' ἐξ ἀγροῖο πρόλινδε
 ὠτρύνοντ' Ὀδυσσεὺς τ' ἵναι καὶ διὸς ὑφορβός.
 τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἤρχε συβώτης, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν

“Ζεῦ', ἐπεὶ ἄρ δὴ ἔπειτα πόλινδ' ἵναι μεναιίνεις 185
 σήμερον, ὥς ἐπέτελλεν ἀναξ ἑμός—ἦ σ' ἂν ἐγὼ γε
 αὐτοῦ βουλοίμην σταθμῶν ρυτῆρα λείψαι·
 ἀλλὰ τὸν αἰδέομαι καὶ δαΐδια, μή μοι ὀπίσσω
 νικεῖν χαλεπαὶ δέ τ' ἀνίκητων εἰσὶν ὀμοκλαί—
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ἴομεν· δὴ γὰρ μέμβλωκε μάλιστα 190
 ἡμαρ, ἀτὰρ τάχα τοι ποτὶ ἔσπερα ῥίγιον ἔσται.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Γιγνώσκω, φρονέω· τά γε δὴ νοέοντι κελεύεις.
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν, σὺ δ' ἔπειτα διαμπερὲς ἡγεμόνευε.
 δὸς δέ μοι, εἴ ποθί τοι ῥόπαλον τετμημένον ἐστίν, 195
 σκηρίπτεσθ', ἐπεὶ ἦ φασ' ἀρισφαλὲ ἔμμεναι οὐδόν.”

¹ Line 181 was rejected by Aristarchus and Aristarchus.

in a levelled place, as their wont was, in insolence of heart. But when it was the hour for dinner, and the flocks came in from all sides from the fields, and the men led them who were wont to lead, then Medon, who of all the heralds was most to their liking and was ever present at their feasts, spoke to them, saying:

"Youths, now that you have all made glad your hearts with sport, come to the house that we may make ready a feast; for it is no bad thing to take one's dinner in season."

So he spoke, and they rose up and went, and hearkened to his word. And when they had come to the stately house they laid their cloaks on the chairs and high seats, and men fell to slaying great sheep and fat goats, aye, and fatted swine, and a heifer of the herd, and so made ready the meal. But Odysseus and the goodly swineherd were making haste to go from the field to the city; and the swineherd, a leader of men, spoke first, and said:

"Stranger, since thou art eager to go to the city to-day, as my master bade—though for myself I would rather have thee left here to keep the farmstead; but I reverence and fear him, lest hereafter he chide me, and hard are the rebukes of masters—come now, let us go. The day is far spent, and soon thou wilt find it colder toward evening."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "I see, I give heed; this thou biddest one with understanding. Come, let us go, and be thou my guide all the way. But give me a staff to lean upon, if thou hast one cut anywhere, for verily ye said that the way was treacherous."

Ἡ ῥα καὶ ἀμφ' ὤμοισιν ἀεικέα βάλλετο πῆρην,
 πυκνὰ ῥωγαλέην· ἐν δὲ στρόφος ἦεν ἀορτήρ·
 Εὐμαιος δ' ἄρα οἱ σκῆπτρον θυμαρὲς ἔδωκε.
 τῷ βήτην, σταθμὸν δὲ κύνας καὶ βώτορες ἄνδρες 200
 ῥύατ' ὀπισθε μένοντες· ὁ δ' ἐς πόλιν ἦγεν ἀνακτα
 πτωχῷ λευγαλέφ' ἐναλίγκιον ἥδ' ἡγέροντι,
 σκηπτόμενον· τὰ δὲ λυγρὰ περὶ χροῖ εἴματα ἔστο.

Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ στείχοντες ὁδὸν κατὰ παιπαλόεσσαν
 ἄστεος ἐγγύς ἔσαν καὶ ἐπὶ κρήνην ἀφίκοντο 205
 τυκτὴν καλλίροον, ὅθεν ὑδρεύοντο πολῖται,
 τὴν ποίησ' Ἴθακος καὶ Νήριτος ἥδ' Ἰολύκτωρ·
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' αἰγείρων ὕδατοτρεφέων ἦν ἄλσος,
 πάντοσε κυκλοτερές, κατὰ δὲ ψυχρὸν ῥέειν ὕδωρ
 ὑψόθεν ἐκ πέτρης· βωμός δ' ἐφύπερθε τέτυκτο 210
 νυμφάων, ὅθι πάντες ἐπιρρέζεσκον ὀδῖται·
 ἐνθα σφέας ἐκίχαν' υἱὸς Δολιχίοιο Μελανθεὺς
 αἶγας ἄγων, αἱ πᾶσι μετέπρεπον αἰπολίοισι,
 δεῖπνον μνηστήρεσσι· δύω δ' ἄμ' ἔκοντο νομῆες.
 τοὺς δὲ ἰδὼν νείκεσεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν, 215
 ἐκπαγλὸν καὶ ἀεικές· ὄρινε δὲ κῆρ' Ὀδυσῆος·

Ἦν μὲν δὴ μάλα πάγχυ κακὸς κακὸν ἠγῆλάζει,
 ὡς αἰεὶ τὸν ὁμοῖον ἄγει θεὸς ὡς τὸν ὁμοῖον.
 πῇ δὴ τόνδε μολοβρὸν ἄγεις, ἁμέγαρτε συβῶτα,
 πτωχὸν ἀνιηρόν, δαιτῶν ἀπολυμαντήρα; 220
 δε πολλῆς φλίσῃσι παραστὰς θλίψεται ὦμος,
 αἰτίζων ἀκόλους, οὐκ ἄορας οὐδὲ λήβητας·
 τὸν κ' εἴ μοι δοίης σταθμῶν ῥντήρα γενέσθαι

He spoke, and flung about his shoulders his miserable wallet, full of holes, slung by a twisted cord, and Eumæus gave him a staff to his liking. So they two set forth, and the dogs and the herdsmen stayed behind to guard the farmstead; but the swineherd led his master to the city in the likeness of a woeful and aged beggar, leaning on a staff; and miserable was the raiment that he wore about his body.

But when, as they went along the rugged path, they were near the city, and had come to a well-wrought, fair-flowing fountain, wherefrom the townsfolk drew water—this Ithæus had made, and Neritus, and Polyctor, and around was a grove of poplars, that grow by the waters, circling it on all sides, and down the cold water flowed from the rock above, and on the top was built an altar to the nymphs where all passers-by made offerings—there Melantheus, son of Dolius, met them as he was driving his she-goats, the best that were in all the herds, to make a feast for the wooers; and two herdsmen followed with him. As he saw them, he spoke and addressed them, and reviled them in terrible and unseemly words, and stirred the heart of Odysseus:

"Lo, now, in very truth the vile leads the vile. As ever, the god is bringing like and like together. Whither, pray, art thou leading this filthy wretch,¹ thou miserable swineherd, this nuisance of a beggar to mar our feasts? He is a man to stand and rub his shoulders on many doorposts, begging for scraps, not for swords or cauldrons.² If thou wouldest give me this fellow to keep my farmstead, to sweep out

¹ The meaning of the word is uncertain. It is often rendered "gluttonous."

² i.e. for such gifts as were ordinarily given to princely guests.

σηκοκόρου τ' ἔμεναι θαλλὸν τ' ἐρίφοισι φορῆναι,
καί κεν ὄρον πίνων μεγάλην ἐπιγουνίδα θεῖτο. 225
ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ οὖν δὴ ἔργα κάκ' ἔμαθεν, οὐκ ἐβελήσκει
ἔργον ἐποίχεσθαι, ἀλλὰ πτώσσων κατὰ δῆμον
βούλεται αἰτιῶν βόσκειν ἦν γαστέρ' ἀναλτον.
ἀλλ' ἐκ τοι ἔρέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·
αἶ κ' ἔλθῃ πρὸς δῶματ' Ὀδυσσεύς θεῖοιο, 230
πολλά οἱ ἀμφὶ κάρη σφέλα ἀνδρῶν ἐκ παλαμῶν
πλευραὶ ἀποτριψουσι δόμον κάτα βαλλομένοιο."

"Ὡς φότο, καὶ παριὼν λάξ ἐνθορεν ἀφραδίῃσιν
ἰσχίῳ· οὐδέ μιν ἐκτὸς ἀταρπιτοῦ ἐστυφέλιξεν,
ἀλλ' ἔμεν' ἀσφαλέως ὁ δὲ μερμήριξεν Ὀδυσσεύς 235
ἥ μετὰ ξας ῥοπᾶλῳ ἐκ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο,
ἥ πρὸς γῆν ἐλάσειε κάρη ἀμφουδὶς αἰέρας.
ἀλλ' ἐπετόλμησε, φρεσὶ δ' ἔσχετο· τὸν δὲ συβώτης
νεῖκεσ' ἐσάντα ἰδὼν, μέγα δ' εὗξατο χεῖρας ἀνασχών·

"Νύμφοι κρηναῖαι, κοῦραι Διὸς, εἴ ποτ' Ὀδυσσεύς 240
ὑμῖν ἐπὶ μηρὶ ἔκῃε, καλύψας πῖονι δημῷ,
ἀρνῶν ἢ δ' ἐρίφων, τὸδε μοῖ κρηγήνατ' ἐέλδωρ,
ὥς ἔλθοι μὲν κείνος ἀνὴρ, ἀγᾶγοι δὲ ἐ δαίμων·
τῷ κέ τοι ἀγλαίας γε διασκεδάσειεν ἀπάσας,
τὰς νῦν ὑβρίζων φορέεις, ἀλαλήμενος αἰεὶ 245
ἄστν κατ'· αὐτὰρ μῆλα κακοὶ φθείρουσι νομῆες."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν·
"ὦ πόποι, οἶον εἶπε κύων ὀλοφώϊα εἰδὼς,
τὸν ποτ' ἐγὼν ἐπὶ νηὸς εὖσσέλμοιο μελαίνης

the pens and to carry young shoots to the kids, then by drinking whey he might get himself a sturdy thigh. But since he has learned only deeds of evil, he will not care to busy himself with work, but is minded rather to go skulking through the land, that by begging he may feed his insatiate belly. But I will speak out to thee, and this word shall verily be brought to pass. If he comes to the palace of divine Odysseus, many a footstool, hurled about his head by the hands of those that are men, shall be broken on his ribs¹ as he is pelted through the house."

So he spoke, and as he passed he kicked Odysseus on the hip in his folly, yet he did not drive him from the path, but he stood steadfast. And Odysseus pondered whether he should leap upon him and take his life with his staff, or seize him round about,² and lift him up, and dash his head upon the ground. Yet he endured, and stayed him from his purpose. And the swineherd looked the man in the face, and rebuked him, and lifted up his hands, and prayed aloud:

"Nymphs of the fountain, daughters of Zeus, if ever Odysseus burned upon your altars pieces of the thighs of lambs or kids, wrapped in rich fat, fulfil for me this prayer; grant that he, my master, may come back, and that some god may guide him. Then would he scatter all the proud sirs which now thou puttest on in thy insolence, ever roaming about the city, while evil herdsmen destroy the flock."

Then Melanthius, the goatherd, answered him: "Lo now, how the cur talks, his mind full of mischief. Him will I some day take on a black, benched ship

¹ Or, reading *ελεος* ε', "shall hang about his head and on his ribs."

² The only thing certain about this obscure word seems to be the preposition.

ἄξω τῇλ' ἰθάκης, ἵνα μοι βίοντον πολὺν ἄλφοι. 250
αἱ γὰρ Τηλέμαχον βῆλαι ἄργυρόποδες Ἀπόλλων
σήμερον ἐν μεγάροις, ἣ ὑπὸ μνηστῆρσι δαμείη,
ὥς Ὀδυσσῆ' γε τῆλοῦ ἀπώλετο εὐσεπιμον ἡμαρ."

Ἦς εἰπὼν τοὺς μὲν λίπεν αὐτοὶ ἤκα κiónτας,
αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ, μάλα δ' ὥκα δόμους ἱκανὴν ἄνακτος. 255
αὐτίκα δ' εἰσὼ ἱεν, μετὰ δὲ μνηστῆρσι καθίζεν,
ἀντίον Εὐρυμάχου· τὸν γὰρ φιλέσκες μάλιστα.
τῷ πάρα μὲν κρείων μοῖραν θέσαι εἰ πονέοντο,
σῖτον δ' αἰδοίη τομή παρῆσκε φίρουσα

ἔδμεναι. ἀγχιμόλον δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ δῖος ὕφορβος 260
στήτην ἐρχομένῳ, περὶ δὲ σφεας φλωθ' ἰωῇ
φόρμυγος γλαφυρῆς· ἀνὰ γὰρ σφειεὶ βάλλετ' αἰεῖδεν
Φῆμος· αὐτὰρ ὁ χειρὸς ἐλάν προΐειπε συβώτην·

"Εὖμαί, ἦ μάλα δὴ τάδε δώματα κάλ' Ὀδυσῆος,
ρεῖα δ' ἀρήνωτ' ἰστί καὶ ἐν πολλοῖσιν ἰδέσθαι. 265
ἐξ ἐτέρων ἑτέρ' ἐστίν, ἐτήσκηται δὲ οἱ αὐλή
τοίχῳ καὶ θρυγαῖσι, θύραι δ' εὐαρκίες εἰσὶ
ἐκκλίδες· οὐκ εἴν τις μὲν ἀνὴρ ὑπεροπλίσσαιο.
γινώσκω δ' ὅτι πολλοὶ ἐν αὐτῷ θεῖτα τίθενται
ἄνδρες, ἐπεὶ κνίσῃ μὲν ἀνιήσθην, ὃ δὲ τε φόρμυξ 270
ἠπύει, ἣν ἄρα δαιτὶ θεοὶ ποίησαι ἱταίρην."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη· Εὖμαιε συβώτα·
"ῚΡεῖ ἔγνων, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ τά τ' ἄλλε πέρ ἴσος ἄνοήμων.
ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ φραζώμεθ' ὅπως ἔσται τάδε ἔργα.
ἦέ σὺ πρῶτος ἔσελθε δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας, 275
δύσεο δὲ μνηστῆρας, ἐγὼ δ' ὑπολάψομαι αὐτοῦ·
εἰ δ' ἐθέλεις, ἐπίμεινον, ἐγὼ δ' εἶρε τροπάροισθε·

far from Ithaca, that he may bring me in much wealth. Would that Apollo, of the silver bow, might smite Telemachus to-day in the halls, or that he might be slain by the wooers, as surely as for Odysseus in a far land the day of return has been lost."

So saying, he left them there, as they walked slowly on, but himself strode forward and right swiftly came to the palace of the king. Straightway he entered in and sat down among the wooers over against Eurymachus, for he loved him best of all. Then by him those that served set a portion of meat, and the grave housewife brought and set before him bread, for him to eat. And Odysseus and the goodly swineherd halted as they drew nigh, and about them rang the sound of the hollow lyre, for Phemius was striking the chords to sing before the wooers. Then Odysseus clasped the swineherd by the hand, and said:

"Eumæus, surely this is the beautiful house of Odysseus. Easily might it be known, though seen among many. There is building upon building, and the court is built with wall and coping, and the double gates are well-fenced; no man may scoru it. And I mark that in the house itself many men are feasting: for the savour of meat arises from it, and therewith resounds the voice of the lyre, which the gods have made the companion of the feast."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Easily hast thou marked it, for in all things thou art ready of wit. But come, let us take thought how these things shall be. Either do thou go first into the stately palace, and enter the company of the wooers, and I will remain behind here, or, if thou wilt, remain thou here and I will

μηδὲ σὺ δηθύνειν, μή τίς σ' ἔκτοσθε νοήσας
ἢ βάλη ἢ ἐλάσῃ· τὰ δέ σε φράζεσθαι ἄνωγα."

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα πολὺτλας διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς 290
" Γυγνώσκω, φρονέω· τά γε δὴ νοέοντι κελεύεις.
ἀλλ' ἔρχευ προπάραιθεν, ἐγὼ δ' ὑπολείψομαι αὐτοῦ.
οὐ γάρ τι πληγέων ἀδαήμων οὐδὲ βολάων
τολμήεις μοι θυμὸς, ἐπεὶ κακὰ πολλὰ πέπονθα
κύμασι καὶ πολέμῳ· μετὰ καὶ τόδε τοῖσι γενέσθω· 295
γαστέρα δ' οὐ πῶς ἔστιν ἀποκρύψαι μεμαυῖαν,
οὐλομένην, ἣ πολλὰ κῆκ' ἀνθρώποισι δίδωσι,
τῆς ἔνεκεν καὶ νῆες ἐθζυγοὶ ὀπλίζονται
πόντον ἐπ' ἀτρίγεται, κακὰ δυσμενέεσσι φέρουσαι."

"Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον· 290
ἀν δὲ κύων κεφαλὴν τε καὶ οὐατα κείμενος ἔσχεν,
Ἄργος, Ὀδυσσεύος ταλασίφρονος, ὃν ῥά ποτ' αὐτὸς
θρέψε μὲν, οὐδ' ἀπόνητο, πάρος δ' εἰς Ἴλιον ἱρὴν
ῥῆχτο. τὸν δὲ πάραιθεν ἀγίνεσκον νῆοι ἄνδρες
αἶγας ἐπ' ἀγροτέρας ἠδὲ πρόκας ἠδὲ λαγρούς· 295
δὴ τότε κεῖτ' ἀπόθεστος ὑποειχομένοιο ἀνακτος,
ἐν πολλῇ κόπρῳ, ἣ οἱ προπάραιθε θυράων
ἡμιόνων τε βοῶν τε ἄλις κέχυτ', ὅφρ' ἂν ἄγοιεν
δμῶες Ὀδυσσεύος τέμενος μέγα κοπρήσοντες·
ἐνθα κύων κεῖτ' Ἄργος, ἐνὶ πλεῖσις κυνοραιοστέων. 300
δὴ τότε γ', ὥς ἐνόησεν Ὀδυσσεύς, ἐγγὺς ἔοντα,
οὐρῇ μὲν ῥ' ὃ γ' ἔσθηνε καὶ οὐατα κάββαλεν ἄμφω,
ἄσσον δ' οὐκέτ' ἔπειτα δυνήσατο οἷο ἀνακτος
ἐλθόμεν· αὐτὰρ ὁ νόσφιν ἰδὼν ἀπομόρξατο δάκρυ,
ῥεῖα λαθὼν Εὐμαιον, ἄφαρ δ' ἐρεεῖνετο μύθῳ· 305
" Εὐμαί, ἦ μάλα θαῦμα, κύων ὅδε κεῖτ' ἐνὶ κόπρῳ.

go before thee. But do not thou linger long, lest some man see thee without and pelt thee or smite thee. Of this I bid thee take thought."

Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus answered him: "I see, I give heed: this thou biddest one with understanding. But go thou before, and I will remain behind here; for no whilt unused am I to blows and peltings. Staunch is my heart, for much evil have I suffered amid the waves and in war; let this too be added to what has gone before. But a ravening belly may no man hide, an accursed plague that brings many evils upon men. Because of it are the benched ships also made ready, that bear evil to foemen over the unresting sea."

Thus they spoke to one another. And a hound that lay there raised his head and pricked up his ears, Argos, the hound of Odysseus, of the steadfast heart, whom of old he had himself bred, but had no joy of him, for ere that he went to sacred Ilios. In days past the young men were wont to take the hound to hunt the wild goats, and deer, and hares; but now he lay neglected, his master gone, in the deep dung of mules and cattle, which lay in heaps before the doors, till the slaves of Odysseus should take it away to dung his wide lands. There lay the hound Argos, full of vermin; yet even now, when he marked Odysseus standing near, he wagged his tail and dropped both his ears, but nearer to his master he had no longer strength to move. Then Odysseus looked aside and wiped away a tear, easily hiding from Eumæus what he did; and straightway he questioned him, and said:

"Eumæus, verily it is strange that this hound lies

καλὸς μὲν δέμας ἐστίν, ἀτὰρ τόδε γ' οὐ σάφα οἶδα,
εἰ δὴ καὶ ταχὺς ἔσκε θείῃ ἐπὶ εἵδει τῷδε,
ἢ αὐτὸς οἶοί τε τραπεζῆς κύνας ἀνδρῶν
γίγνοντ'· ἀγλαΐης δ' ἔτεκεν κομέουσιν ἄνακτες." 310

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαῖε συβῶτα·
"Καὶ λίην ἀνδράς γε κύων ὅδε τῆλα θανόντος.
εἰ τοιόσδ' εἴη ἡμὲν δέμας ἡδὲ καὶ ἔργα,
οἷόν μιν Τροίηνδε κιὼν κατέλειπεν Ὀδυσσεύς,
αἰψά κε θηήσαιο ἰδὼν ταχυτήτα καὶ ἀλκήν." 315

οὐ μὲν γάρ τι φύγεσκε βαθείης βένθεσιν ὕλης
κνώδαλον, ὅττι εἴοιτο·¹ καὶ ἴχνεσι γὰρ περιήδη·
νῦν δ' ἔχεται κακότητι, ἄναξ δέ οἱ ἄλλοθι πάτρησ'
ᾤλατο, τὸν δὲ γυναῖκες ἀκηδέες οὐ κομέουσι.
δμῶες δ', εὐτ' ἂν μηκέτ' ἐπικρατέωσιν ἄνακτες, 320
οὐκέτ' ἔπειτ' ἐθέλουσιν ἐναίσιμα ἐργάζεσθαι·
ἡμισυ γάρ τ' ἀρετῆς ἀποαίνυται εὐρύσιπα Ζεὺς
ἀνέρος, εὐτ' ἂν μιν κατὰ δούλιον ἡμαρ ἔλθῃσιν."

ὣς εἰπὼν εἰσῆλθε δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας,
βῆ δ' ἰθὺς μεγάροιο μετὰ μνηστῆρας ἀγανούς. 325
Ἄργον δ' αὖ κατὰ μοῖρ' ἔλαβεν μέλανος θανάτοιο,
αὐτίκ' ἰδόντ' Ὀδυσῆα εἰκοστῷ ἐνιαυτῷ.

Τὸν δὲ πολὺν πρῶτος ἶδε Τηλέμαχος θεοειδῆς
ἐρχόμενον κατὰ δῶμα συβώτην, ὦκα δ' ἔπειτα
νεῦσ' ἐπὶ οἱ καλέσας· ὁ δὲ παπτήνας ἔλε δῖφρον 330
κείμενον, ἐνθα τε δαιτρὸς ἐφίζεσκε κρέα πολλὰ
δαιόμενος μνηστῆρσι δόμον κάτα δαιτυμένοισι·
τὸν κατίσθηκε φέρων πρὸς Τηλεμύχοιο τράπεζαν

¹ εἴοιτο : ἴδοιτο.

here in the dung. He is fine of form, but I do not clearly know whether he has speed of foot to match this beauty or whether he is merely as table-dogs are, which their masters keep for show."

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer and say: "Aye, verily this is the hound of a man that has died in a far land. If he were hut in form and in action such as he was when Odysseus left him and went to Troy, thou wouldest soon be amazed at seeing his speed and his strength. No creature that he started in the depths of the thick wood could escape him, and in tracking too he was keen of scent. But now he is in evil plight, and his master has perished far from his native land, and the heedless women give him no care. Slaves, when their masters lose their power, are no longer minded thereafter to do honest service: for Zeus, whose voice is borne afar, takes away half his worth from a man, when the day of slavery comes upon him."

So saying, he entered the stately house and went straight to the hall to join the company of the lordly wooers. But as for Argos, the fate of black death seized him straightway when he had seen Odysseus in the twentieth year.

Now as the swineherd came through the hall god-like Telemachus was far the first to see him, and quickly with a nod he called him to his side. And Eumæus looked about him and took a stool that lay near, on which the carver was wont to sit when carving for the wooers the many joints of meat, as they feasted in the hall. This he took and placed at the table of Telemachus, over against him, and there

ἀντίον, ἔνθα δ' ἄρ' αὐτὸς ἐφέζετο· τῷ δ' ἄρα κῆρυξ
μοῖραν ἔλων ἐτίθει κανέου τ' ἐκ σίτον ἀείρας. 333

Ἀγχίμολον δὲ μετ' αὐτὸν ἐδύσετο δῶματ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
πτωχῷ λευγαλέφ' ἐναλίγκιος ἡδὲ γέροντι,
σκηπτόμενος· τὰ δὲ λυγρὰ περὶ χροῖ εἴματα ἔστο.
Ἰξε δ' ἐπὶ μελίνου οὐδοῦ ἔντοσθε θυράων,
κλινάμενος σταθμῷ κυπαρισσίνῃ, ὃν ποτε τέκτων 340
ξέσσειν ἐπισταμένως καὶ ἐπὶ στάθμῃν ἴθυνεν.
Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐπὶ οἱ καλέσας προσέειπε συβώτην,
ἄρτον τ' οὖλον ἔλων περικαλλέος ἐκ κανέοιο
καὶ κρέας, ὥς οἱ χεῖρες ἐχάνθανον ἀμφιβαλόντι·

“ Δὸς τῷ ξείνῳ ταῦτα φέρων αὐτόν τε κέλευε 345
αἰτίξειν μᾶλα πάντα ἐποιχόμενον μνηστῆρας·
αἰδῶς δ' οὐκ ἀγαθὴ κεχρημένῳ ἀνδρὶ παρῆναι.”

ὣς φάτο, βῆ δὲ συφορβός, ἐπεὶ τὸν μῦθον ἄκουσεν,
ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰστάμενος ἔπεια πτερόεντ' ἀγόρευε·

“ Τηλέμαχος τοι, ξεῖνε, διδοῖ τάδε, καὶ σε κελεύει 350
αἰτίξειν μᾶλα πάντα ἐποιχόμενον μνηστῆρας·
αἰδῶ δ' οὐκ ἀγαθὴν φησ' ἔμμεναι ἀνδρὶ προίκτη.”

Τὸν δ' ὑπαμβιβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
“ Ζεῦ ἄνα, Τηλέμαχόν μοι ἐν ἀνδράσιν ὀλβιον εἶναι,
καὶ οἱ πάντα γένοιθ' ὅσσα φρεσὶν ἦσι μενοινᾷ.” 355

Ἥ ῥα καὶ ἀμφοτέρησιν ἐδέξατο καὶ κατέθηκεν
αὐτοῖς ποδῶν προπύροιθεν, ἀεικέλης ἐπὶ πῆρης,
ἦσθι δ' ἦος ἀοιδὸς ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἀειδεν·
εὖθ' ὁ δεδειπνήκει, ὃ δ' ἐπαύετο θεῖος ἀοιδός.¹
μνηστῆρες δ' ὁμάδησαν ἀνὰ μέγαρ'. αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη, 360

¹ Line 359 was rejected by Archtarchus.

sat down himself. And a heraid took a portion of meat and set it before him, and bread from out the basket.

Ngth after him Odysseus entered the palace in the likeness of a woeful and aged beggar, leaning on a staff, and miserable was the raiment that he wore about his body. He sat down upon the ashen threshold within the doorway, leaning against a post of cypress wood, which of old a carpenter had skilfully planed, and made straight to the line. Then Telemachus called the swineherd to him, and, taking a whole loaf from out the beautiful basket, and all the meat his hands could hold in their grasp, spoke to him, saying :

"Take, and give this mess to you stranger, and bid him go about himself and beg of the wooers one and all. Shame is no good comrade for a man that is in need."

So he spoke, and the swineherd went, when he had heard this saying, and coming up to Odysseus spoke to him winged words :

"Stranger, Telemachus gives thee these, and bids thee go about and beg of the wooers one and all. Shame, he says, is no good thing in a beggar man."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said, "King Zeus, grant, I pray thee, that Telemachus may be blest among men, and may have all that his heart desires."

He spoke, and took the mess in both his hands and set it down there before his feet on his miserable wallet. Then he ate so long as the minstrel sang in the halls. But when he had dined and the divine minstrel was ceasing to sing, the wooers broke into uproar throughout the halls; but Athene drew close

ἄγχι παρισταμένη Λαερτιάδην Ὀδυσῆα
 ὤτρυν', ὥς ἂν πύρνα κατὰ μνηστῆρας ἀγείροι,
 γνοίῃ θ' οἳ τινὲς εἰσιν ἐναΐσιμοι οἳ τ' ἀθέμιστοι
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς τιν' ἔμελλ' ἀπαλεξήσῃν κακότητος.
 βῆ δ' ἱμιν αἰτήσων ἐνδέξια φῶτα ἕκαστον, 365
 πάντοσε χεῖρ' ὀρέγων, ὥς εἰ πτωχὸς πάλαι εἴη.
 οἱ δ' ἐλαιοῖροντες δίδωσαν, καὶ ἐθάμβεον αὐτόν,
 ἀλλήλους τ' εἶροντο τίς εἴη καὶ πόθεν ἔλθοι.

Τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν
 "Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστῆρες ἀγακλειτῆς βασιλείης, 370
 τοῦδε περὶ ξείνου· ἢ γάρ μιν πρόσθεν ὀπωπα.
 ἢ τοι μὲν οἱ δεῦρο συβώτης ἡγεμόνευεν,
 αὐτὸν δ' οὐ σάφα οἶδα, πόθεν γένος εὐχεται εἶναι."

"Ὡς ἔφατ', Ἀντίκοος δ' ἔπεσιν νείκεσσε συβώτην·
 "'Ὡ ἀρίγνωτε συβῶτα, τίη δὲ σὺ τόνδε πόλινδε 375
 ἤγαγες; ἢ οὐχ ἄλις ἡμῖν ἀλήμονές εἰσι καὶ ἄλλοι,
 πτωχοὶ ἄνηροί, δαιτῶν ἀπολυμαντῆρες;
 ἢ ὄνοσαι ὅτι τοι βίονα κατέδουσιν ἄνακτος
 ἐνθάδ' ἀγειρόμενοι, σὺ δὲ καὶ προτὶ τόνδ' ἐκάλεσσας;"

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαιοε συβῶτα· 380
 "'Αντίνο', οὐ μὲν καλὰ καὶ ἐσθλὸς ἐὼν ἀγορεύεις·
 τίς γὰρ δὴ ξείνονα καλεῖ ἄλλοθεν αὐτὸς ἐπελθὼν
 ἄλλον γ', εἰ μὴ τῶν οἳ δημοεργοὶ ἔασι,
 μίντιν ἢ ἱητῆρα κακῶν ἢ τέκτονα δοῦρων,
 ἢ καὶ θέσπιν ἁοιδόν, ὃ κεν τέρπῃσιν ἀείδων; 385
 οὔτοι γὰρ κλητοὶ γε βροτῶν ἐπ' ἀπείρονα γαῖαν·
 πτωχὸν δ' οὐκ ἂν τις καλέοι τρύζοντα ἢ αὐτόν.
 ἀλλ' αἰεὶ χαλεπὸς περὶ πάντων εἰς μνηστήρων

to the side of Odysseus, son of Laertes, and roused him to go among the wooers and gather bits of bread; and learn which of them were righteous and which lawless. Yet even so she was not minded to save one of them from ruin. So he set out to beg of every man, beginning on the right, stretching out his hand on every side, as though he had been long a beggar. And they pitied him and gave, and marvelled at him, asking one another who he was and whence he came.

Then among them spoke Melanthius, the goatherd: "Hear me, wooers of the glorious queen, regarding this stranger, for verily I have seen him before. Truly it was the swineherd that led him hither, but of the man himself I know not surely from whence he declares his birth to be."

So he spoke, and Antinous rebuked the swineherd, saying: "Notorious swineherd, why, pray, didst thou bring this man to the city? Have we not vagabonds enough without him, nuisances of beggars to mar our feasts? Dost thou not think it enough that they gather here and devour the substance of thy master, that thou dost bid this fellow too?"

To him then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "Antinous, no fair words are these thou speakest, noble though thou art. Who, pray, of himself ever seeks out and bids a stranger from abroad, unless it be one of those that are masters of some public craft, a prophet, or a healer of ills, or a builder, ay, or a divine minstrel, who gives delight with his song? For these men are hidden all over the boundless earth. Yet a beggar would no man bid to be burden to himself. But thou art ever harsh above all the wooers to the

δμῳσὶν Ὀδυσσῆος, πέρι δ' αὐτ' ἐμοί· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γε
οὐκ ἀλέγω, ἥος μοι ἐχέφρων Πηνελόπεια 390
ζῶει ἐνὶ μεγάροις καὶ Τηλέμαχος θεοειδής."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀρτίον ἤυδα·
"Σίγα,¹ μὴ μοι τοῦτον ἀμείβεο πολλὰ ἔπειςσιν·
Ἀντίνοος δ' εἴωθε κακῶς ἐρεθιζέμεν αἰεὶ
μῦθοισιν χαλεποῖσιν, ἐποτρύνει δὲ καὶ ἄλλους." 395

Ἡ ῥα καὶ Ἀντίνοον ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
"Ἀντίνο', ἦ μεν καλὰ πατήρ ὥς κήδεαι υἱός,
ὅς τὸν ξεῖνον ἄνωγας ὑπὸ μεγάροιο διέσθαι
μῦθῳ ἀναγκαῖον· μὴ τοῦτο θεὸς τελέσειε.
δός οἱ ἐλὼν· οὐ τοι φθονέω· κέλομαι γὰρ ἐγὼ γε 400
μήτ' οὖν μητέρ' ἐμὴν ἄξεν τό γε μήτε τιν' ἄλλον
δμῶων, οἳ κατὰ δώματ' Ὀδυσσῆος θέλοιο.²
ἀλλ' οὐ τοι τοιοῦτον ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νόημα·
αὐτὸς γὰρ φαγέμεν πολὺ βούλειαι ἢ δόμεν ἄλλῳ."

Τὸν δ' αὐτ' Ἀντίνοος ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέειπε 405
"Τηλέμαχ' ὑψαγόρη, μένος ἄσχετε, ποῖον ἔειπες.
εἰ οἱ τόσσον ἅπαντες ὀρέξειαν μνηστήρες,
καὶ κέν μιν τρεῖς μῆνας ὑπόπροθεν οἶκος ἐρύκοι."

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ θρήνυν ἐλὼν ὑπέφηνε τραπέζης
κείμενον, ᾧ ῥ' ἔπεχεν λιπαροὺς πόδας εἰλαπινάζων 410
οἱ δ' ἄλλοι πάντες δίδοσαν, πλήσαν δ' ἄρα πῆρην
σίτου καὶ κρειῶν· τάχα δὴ καὶ ἔμελλεν Ὀδυσσεὺς
αὐτίς ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν προικὸς γεύσεσθαι Ἀχαιῶν·
στῇ δὲ παρ' Ἀντίνοον, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπε·

¹ Σίγα: Ἄττα.

² Line 402 is omitted in some MSS.

slaves of Odysseus, and most of all to me; yet I care not, so long as my lady, the constant Penelope, lives in the hall, and godlike Telemachus."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Be silent; do not, I bid thee, answer yonder man with many words, for Antinous is wont ever in evil wise to provoke to anger with harsh words, aye, and urges on the others too."

With this he spoke winged words to Antinous: "Antinoos, truly thou carest well for me, as a father for his son, seeing that thou biddest me drive yonder stranger from the hall with a word of compulsion. May the god never bring such a thing to pass. Nay, take and give him somewhat: I begrudge it not, but rather myself bid thee give. In this matter regard not my mother, no, nor any of the slaves that are in the house of divine Odysseus. But verily far other is the thought in thy breast; for thou art far more fain thyself to eat than to give to another."

Then Antinous answered him, and said: "Telemachus, thou braggart, unrestrained in daring, what a thing hast thou said! If all the wooers would but hand him as much as I, for full three months' space this house would keep him at a distance."

So he spoke, and seized the footstool on which he was wont to rest his shining feet as he seated, and shewed it from beneath the table, where it lay. But all the rest gave gifts, and filled the wallet with bread and bits of meat. And now Odysseus was like to have gone back again to the threshold, and to have made trial of the Achaeans without cost,¹ but he paused by Antinoos, and spoke to him, saying:

¹ i.e. to have tested their generosity with impunity. Others render, less in accordance with Homeric usage, "was about to taste of the bounty of the Achaeans."

"Δός, φίλος· οὐ μὲν μοι δοκείεις ὁ κακίστος Ἀχαιῶν 415
 ἔμμεναι, ἀλλ' ὄριστος, ἐπεὶ βασιλῆϊ ἔοικας.
 τῷ σε χρὴ δόμεναι καὶ λῶϊον ἢ περ ἄλλοι
 σίτου· ἐγὼ δέ κέ σε κλείω κατ' ἀπείρουνα γαῖαν.
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ποτε οἶκον ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ἔναιον
 δλβιος ἀφνειὸν καὶ πολλόκι δόσκον ἀλῆτη, 420
 τοῖφ ὁποῖος ἔοι καὶ ὅτευ κεχρημένος ἔλθοι·
 ἦσαν δὲ δμῶες μᾶλα μυρίοι ἄλλα τε πολλὰ
 οἷσιν τ' εὖ ζῶουσι καὶ ὑφνείοι καλέονται.
 ἀλλὰ Ζεὺς ἀλάπαξε Κρονίων—ἤθελε γὰρ που—
 ὅς μ' ἄμα ληϊστήρσι πολυπλῦγκτοισιν ἀνῆκεν 425
 Αἰγυπτόνδ' ἰέναι, δολιχὴν ὁδόν, ὅφρ' ἀπολοίμην.
 στήσα δ' ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ ποταμῷ νέας ἀμφιελάσας.
 ἐνθ' ἢ τοι μὲν ἐγὼ κελόμην ἐρίηρας ἐταίρους
 αὐτοῦ πὰρ νήεσσι μένειν καὶ νῆας ἐρυσθαι,
 ὀπτῆρας δὲ κατὰ σκοπιῶς ὤτρυναι νέεσθαι. 430
 οἱ δ' ὕβρει εἴξαντες, ἐπισπόμενοι μένει σφῶ,
 αἶψα μάλ' Αἰγυπτίων ἀνδρῶν περικαλλείας ἀγροῦς
 πόρθειον, ἐκ δὲ γυναῖκας ἄγον καὶ νήπια τέκνα,
 αὐτοὺς τ' ἔκτεινον τὰχα δ' ἐς πόλιν ἵκετ' αὐτή.
 οἱ δὲ βοῆς αἰτοῦτες ἄμ' ἠοὶ φαινομένηφιν 435
 ἦλθον· πλήτο δὲ πᾶν πεδίον πεζῶν τε καὶ ἵππων
 χαλκοῦ τε στεροπῆς· ἐν δὲ Ζεὺς τερπικέραυνος
 φύζαν ἑμοῖς ἐτάροισι κακὴν βάλεν, οὐδέ τις ἔτλη
 στήνοι ἐναντίβιον· περὶ γὰρ κακὰ πάντοθεν ἔστη.
 ἐνθ' ἡμέων πολλοὺς μὲν ἀπέκτανον ὀξεί χαλκῷ, 440
 τοὺς δ' ἀναγον ζωοὺς, σφίσιεν ἐργύζεσθαι ἀνάγκη.
 αὐτὰρ ἔμ' ἐς Κύπρον ξείνῳ δόσαν ἀντιάσαντι,

"Friend, give me some gift; thou seemest not in my eyes to be the basest of the Achæans, but rather the noblest, for thou art like a king. Therefore it is meet that thou shouldst give even a better portion of bread than the rest; so would I make thy fame known all over the boundless earth. For I too once dwelt in a house of my own among men, a rich man in a wealthy house, and full often I gave gifts to a wanderer, whosoever he was and with whatsoever need he came. Slaves too I had past counting, and all other things in abundance whereby men live well and are reputed wealthy. But Zeus, son of Cronos, brought all to naught—so, I ween, was his good pleasure—who sent me forth with roving pirates to go to Egypt, a far voyage, that I might meet my ruin; and in the river Aegyptus I moored my curved ships. Then verily I bade my trusty comrades to remain there by the ships and to guard the ships, and I sent out scouts to go to places of outlook. But my comrades, yielding to wantonness and led on by their own might, straightway set about wasting the fair fields of the men of Egypt; and they carried off the women and little children, and slew the men; and the cry came quickly to the city. Then, hearing the shouting, the people came forth at break of day, and the whole plain was filled with footmen and chariots and the flashing of bronze. And Zeus, who hurls the thunderbolt, cast an evil panic upon my comrades, and none had courage to take his stand and face the foe; for evil surrounded us on every side. So then they slew many of us with the sharp bronze, and others they led up to their city alive, to work for them perforce. But they gave me to a friend who met them to take to Cyprus, even to

Δμήτορι Ἰασίδῃ, δὲ Κύπρου ἱφί ἄνασσεν
ἐθθεν δὴ νῦν δεῦρο τόδ' ἔκω πῆματα πάσχων."

Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Ἀντίνοος ἀπαμείβετο φώνησέν τε· 443

"Τίς δαίμων τόδε πῆμα προσήγαγε, δαιτὸς ἀνίην;
στῆθ' οὕτως ἐς μέσσον, ἐμῆς ἀπάνευθε τραπέζης,
μὴ τάχα πικρὴν Λίγυκτον καὶ Κύπρον ἔκῃαι.¹
ὥς τις θαρσαλέος καὶ ἀναιδὴς ἔσσι προΐκτης.

ἔξείης πάντεσσι παρίστασαι· οἱ δὲ διδοῦσι 450

μαψιδίως, ἐπεὶ οὐ τις ἐπίσχεσις οὐδ' ἐλεητὺς
ἀλλοτρίων χαρίσασθαι, ἐπεὶ πάρα πολλὰ ἐκάστω."

Τὸν δ' ἀναχωρήσας προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"ὦ πόποι, οὐκ ἄρα σοί γ' ἐπὶ εἶδει καὶ φρένες ἦσαν· 455

οὐ σύ γ' ἂν ἐξ οἴκου σὺ ἐπιστάτῃ οὐδ' ἄλα δοίης,

δὲ νῦν ἀλλοτρίοισι παρήμενος οὐ τί μοι ἔτλης
σίτου ἀποπροελὼν δόμεναι· τὰ δὲ πολλὰ πάριστιν."

ὣς ἔφατ', Ἀντίνοος δ' ἐχολώσατο κηρόθι μᾶλλον,
καί μιν ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηΐδα·

"Νῦν δὴ σ' οὐκέτι καλὰ διέκ μεγάροιο γ' ὅτω 460

ἄψ ἀναχωρήσειν, ὅτε δὴ καὶ ὀνείδεα βάζεις."

ὦς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ θρήνυν ἐλὼν βύλε δεξιὸν ὦμον,

πρυμνότατον κατὰ νῶτον· ὁ δ' ἐστάθη ἡύτε πέτρη

ἔμπεδον, οὐδ' ἄρα μιν σφῆλεν βέλος Ἀντινόοιο,

ἀλλ' ἀκέων κίνησε κάρη, κακὰ βυσσοδομεύων. 465

ἄψ δ' ὁ γ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο, καδ δ' ἄρα πῆρην

θῆκεν εὐπλείην, μετὰ δὲ μνηστῆρσιν ἔειπε·

¹ ἔκῃαι : ἴδρα.

² Lines 450-2 were rejected by Aristarchus.

Demeter, son of Iasus, who ruled mightily over Cyprus; and from thence am I now come hither, sore distressed."

Then Antinous answered him, and said: "What god has brought this hane hither to trouble our feast? Stand off yonder in the midst, away from my table, lest thou come presently to a bitter Egypt and a bitter Cyprus, seeing that thou art a bold and shameless beggar. Thou comest up to every man in torn, and they give recklessly; for there is no restraint or scruple in giving freely of another's goods, since each man has plenty beside him."

Then Odysseus of many wiles drew back, and said to him: "Lo, now, it seems that thou at least hast not wits to match thy beauty. Thou wouldest not out of thine own substance give even a grain of salt to thy suppliant, thou who now, when sitting at another's table, hadst not the heart to take of the bread and give me aught. Yet here lies plenty at thy hand."

So he spoke, and Antinous waxed the more wroth at heart, and with an angry glance from beneath his brows spoke to him winged words:

"Now verily, methinks, thou shalt no more go forth from the hall in seemly fashion, since thou dost even utter words of reviling."

So saying, he seized the footstool and flung it, and struck Odysseus on the base of the right shoulder, where it joins the back. But he stood firm as a rock, nor did the missile of Antinous make him reel; but he shook his head in silence, pondering evil in the deep of his heart. Then back to the threshold he went and sat down, and down he laid his well-filled wallet; and he spoke among the wooers:

"Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστήρες ἰγακλειτῆς βασιλείης,
 ὄφρ' εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.
 οὐ μὰν οὐτ' ἄχος ἐστὶ μετὰ φρεσὶν οὔτε τι πένθος, 470
 ὅππότε ἀνὴρ περὶ οἷσι μαχεϊόμενος κτεάτεσσι
 βλήεται, ἢ περὶ βουσὶν ἢ ἀργεννῆς ὀέσσιν·
 αὐτὰρ ἔμ' Ἀντίνοος βύλε γαστέρος εἵνεκα λυγρῆς,
 οὐλομένης, ἢ πολλὰ κάκ' ἀνθρώποισι δίδωσιν.
 ἀλλ' εἴ που πτωχῶν γε θεοὶ καὶ Ἑρινύες εἰσὶν, 475
 Ἀντίνοον πρὸ γάμοιο τέλος θανάτοιο κιχείη."

Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Ἀντίνοος προσέφη. Εὐπείθεος υἱός·
 "Ἔσθι ἔκηλος, ξεῖνε, καθήμενος, ἢ ἅπιθ' ἄλλη,
 μή σε νέοι διὰ δῶματ' ἐρύσσωσ', οἳ ἀγορεύεις,
 ἢ ποδὸς ἢ καὶ χειρός, ἀποδρῦψωσι δὲ πάντα." 480

ὣς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἄρα πάντες ὑπερφιάλως νεμέσθησαν·
 ὦδε δὲ τις εἶπεσκε νέων ὑπερηγορόντων·

"Ἀντίνο', οὐ μὲν κάλ' ἔβαλες δύστηνον ἀλήτην,
 οὐλόμεν', εἰ δὴ ποὺ τις ἐπουράνιος θεὸς ἐστίν.
 καὶ τε θεοὶ ξεῖνοισιν ἰοικότες ἄλλοδαποῖσι, 485
 παντοίοι τελέθοντες, ἐπιστροφῶσι πόληας,
 ἀνθρώπων ὕβριν τε καὶ εὐνομίην ἐφορῶντες."

ὣς ἄρ' ἔφην μνηστήρες, ὃ δ' οὐκ ἐμπύζετο μύθων.
 Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐν μὲν κραδίῳ μέγα πένθος ἔεξε
 βλημένου, οὐδ' ἄρα δάκρυ χαμαὶ βάλεν ἐκ βλεφάραϊν,
 ἀλλ' ἀκείων κίνησε κάρη, κακὰ βυρσοδομεύων. 491

Τοῦ δ' ὥς οὖν ἤκουσε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια
 βλημένου ἐν μεγάρῳ, μετ' ἄρα δμῳῇσιν εἶπεν·
 "Αἶθ' οὕτως αὐτόν σε βάλοι κλυτοτόξος Ἀπόλλων."

¹ Lines 475-80 were rejected by Aristarchus.

"Hear me, wooers of the glorious queen, that I may say what the heart in my breast bids me. Verily there is no pain of heart nor any grief when a man is smitten while fighting for his own possessions, whether for his cattle or for his white sheep; but Antinous has smitten me for my wretched belly's sake, an accursed plague that brings many evils upon men. Ah, if for beggars there are gods and avengers, may the doom of death come upon Antinous before his marriage."

Then Antinous, son of Eupetthes, answered him: "Sit still, and eat, stranger, or go elsewhere; lest the young men drag thee by hand or foot through the house for words like these, and strip off all thy skin."

So he spoke, but they all were filled with exceeding indignation, and thus would one of the proud youths speak:

"Antinous, thou didst not well to strike the wretched wanderer. Doomed man that thou art, what if haply he be some god come down from heaven! Aye, and the gods in the guise of strangers from afar put on all manner of shapes, and visit the cities, beholding the violence and the righteousness of men."

So spoke the wooers, but Antinous paid no heed to their words. And Telemachus nursed in his heart great grief for the smiting, though he let no tear fall from his eyelids to the ground; but he shook his head in silence, pondering evil in the deep of his heart.

Howbeit when wise Penelope heard of the man's being smitten in the hall, she spoke among her handmaids, and said: "Even so may thine own self be smitten by the famed archer Apollo."

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Εὐρυνόμη ταμίη πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν· 495
 "Εἰ γὰρ ἐπ' ἀρήσιν τέλος ἡμετέρησι γένοιτο·
 οὐκ ἂν τις τούτων γε ἐθρόνον Ἡῶ ἴκοιτο."

Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Μαῖ, ἐχθροὶ μὲν πάντες, ἐπεὶ κακὰ μηχανώονται· 500
 Ἀντίνοος δὲ μάλιστα μελαίνῃ κηρὶ ἔοικε.

ξείνός τις δύστηνος ἀλήτευει κατὰ δῶμα
 ἰσέρας αἰτίζων· ἀχρημασύνη γὰρ ἀνώγει·
 ἐνθ' ἄλλοι μὲν πάντες ἐνέπλησάν τ' ἔδοσάν τε,
 οὗτος δὲ θρήνηι πρυμνὸν βάλε δεξιὸν ὦμον."

Ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς ἀγόρευε μετὰ δμῳῇσι γυναῖξιν, 505
 ἡμένη ἐν θαλάμῳ· ὃ δ' ἐδείκνυε διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς·
 ἡ δ' ἐπὶ οἷ καλέσασα προσηύδα διὸν ἰφορβόν·

"Ἐρχεο, δῖ' Εὐμαίε, κιὼν τὸν ξείνων ἀνωχθί
 ἐλθέμεν, ὅφρα τί μιν προσπτύξομαι ἢδ' ἐρέωμαι.
 εἴ που Ὀδυσσεύς ταλασίφρονος ἢδ' πέπυσται 510
 ἢ ἴδεν ὀφθαλμοῖσι πολυπλάγκτω, γὰρ ἔοικε."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα·

"Εἰ γὰρ τοι, βασιλεια, σιωπήσεια" Ἀχαιοί·
 οἱ δ' γε μυθεῖται, θέλγοιτό κέ τοι φίλον ἦτορ.
 τρεῖς γὰρ δὴ μιν νύκτας ἔχον, τρία δ' ἡματ' ἔρυξα 515
 ἐν κλισίῃ· πρῶτον γὰρ ἐμ' ἴκετο νηὶς ἀποδράς·
 ἀλλ' οὐ πω κακότητα δεινύσεν ἦν ἀγορεύων.

ὥς δ' ὅτ' αἰοιδὸν ἀνὴρ ποτιδέρεται, ὅς τε θεῶν ἐξ
 αἰεδαῖς ἐπεὶ ἰμερόεντα βροτοῖσι,
 τοῦ δ' ἄμοτον μεμῶσιν ἀκονέμεν, ὅππότε' αἰεδῇ· 520
 ὡς ἐμὲ κείνος ἔθελγε παρήμενος ἐν μεγάροισι.

φησὶ δ' Ὀδυσσεύς ξείνος πατρώϊος εἶναι,
 Κρήτη ναιετάων, ὅθι Μίνως γένος ἐστίν.
 ἐνθεν δὴ νῦν δεῦρο τὸδ' ἴκετο πῆματα πάσχω·

¹ Lines 501-4 were rejected by Aristarchus.

And again the housewife Eurynome said to her: "Would that fulfilment might be granted to our prayers. So should not one of these men come to the fair-throned Dawn."

And wise Penelope answered her: "Nurse, enemies are they all, for they devise evil. But Antinous more than all is like black fate. Some wretched stranger roams through the house, begging alms of the men, for want compels him, and all the others filled his wallet and gave him gifts, but Antinous flung a foolstool and smote him at the base of the right shoulder."

So she spoke among her handmaids, sitting in her chamber, while goodly Odysseus was at meat. Then she called to her the goodly swineherd, and said:

"Go, goodly Eumæus, and bid the stranger come hither, that I may give him greeting, and ask him if haply he has heard of Odysseus of the steadfast heart, or has seen him with his eyes. He seems like one that has wandered far."

To her, then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer, and say: "I would, O queen, that the Achæans would keep silence, for he speaks such words as would charm thy very soul. Three nights I had him by me, and three days I kept him in my hut, for to me first he came when he fled by stealth from a ship, but he had not yet ended the tale of his sufferings. Even as when a man gazes upon a minstrel who sings to mortals songs of longing that the gods have taught him, and their desire to hear him has no end, whensoever he sings, even so he charmed me as he sat in my hall. He says that he is an uncestral friend of Odysseus, and that he dwells in Crete, where is the race of Minos. From thence has he now come on this journey hither, ever suffering woes as he

προπροκυλιωδόμενος· στεύται δ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀκούσαι, 525
 ἀγχοῦ, Θεσπρωτῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐν πίονι δήμῳ,
 ζωῶν· πολλά δ' ἄγει κειμήλια θνδε δόμανδε."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Ἐρχεο, δεῦρο κάλεσσον, ἴν' ἀντίον αὐτὸς ἐνίσπῃ.
 οὔτοι δ' ἢ θύρῃσι καθήμενοι ἐψίασθων 530
 ἢ αὐτοῦ κατὰ δώματ', ἐπεὶ σφισι θυμὸς ἐυφρων.
 αὐτῶν μὲν γὰρ κτήματ' ἀκήρατα κεῖτ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 σῖτος καὶ μέθυ ἡδύ· τὰ μὲν οἰκῆτες ἔδουσιν,
 οἱ δ' εἰς ἡμέτερον πωλεύμενοι ἤματα πάντα,
 βοῦς ἱερεύοντες καὶ δῖς καὶ πίονας αἶγας, 535
 εἰλαπιναῖζουσιν τίνουσί τε αἶθοπα οἶνον,
 μαψιδίωσ' τὰ δὲ πολλὰ κατάνεται. οὐ γὰρ ἔπ' ἀνὴρ,
 οἷος Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔσκεν, ἀρὴν ἀπὸ οἴκου ἀμῦναι.
 εἰ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔλθοι καὶ ἴκοιτ' ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν,
 αἰψά κε σὺν ᾧ παιδὶ βίας ἀποτίσεται ἀνδρῶν." 540

"Ὡς φάτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ μέγ' ἔπταρεν, ἀμφὶ ἐλ δῶμα
 σμερδαλέον κονάβησε· γέλασσε δὲ Πηνελόπεια,
 αἰψα δ' ἄρ' Εὐμαίων ἔπια πτερύεργα προσηΐδα·

"Ἐρχεό μοι, τὸν ξεῖνον ἐναντίον ὧδε κάλεσσον.
 οὐχ ὀρύας δ' μοι νῖδες ἐπέπταρε πᾶσιν ἔπεσσι; 545
 τῷ κε καὶ οὐκ ὑτελὲς θύνατος μνηστῆραι γένοιτο
 πᾶσι μάλ', οὐδέ κέ τις θύνατον καὶ κῆρας ἀλύξει.¹
 ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·
 αἶ κ' αὐτὸν γνώω νημερτία πάντ' ἐνέποντα,
 ἔσσω μιν χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε, εἴματα καλά." 550

"Ὡς φάτο, βῆ δὲ συφορβός, ἐπεὶ τὸν μῦθον ἀκουσεν·
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰσθήμενος ἔπια πτερύεργα προσηΐδα·

¹ Line 547 is omitted in some MSS.

wanders on and on. And he insists that he has heard tidings of Odysseus, near at hand in the rich land of the Thesprotians and yet alive; and he is bringing many treasures to his home."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Oo, call him hither, that he may himself tell me to my face. But as for these men, let them make sport as they sit in the doorway or here in the house, since their hearts are merry. For their own possessions lie untouched in their homes, bread and sweet wine, and on these do their servants feed. But themselves throng our house day after day, slaying our oxen, and sheep, and fat goats, and keep revel and drink the flaming wine recklessly, and havoc is made of all this wealth, for there is no man here such as Odysseus was to keep ruin from the house. But if Odysseus should come and return to his native land, straightway would he with his son take vengeance on these men for their violent deeds."

So she spoke, and Telemachus sneezed loudly, and all the room round about echoed wondrously. And Penelope laughed, and straightway spoke to Eumæus winged words:

"Go, pray, call the stranger here before me. Dost thou not note that my son has sneezed at all my words. Therefore shall utter death fall upon the wooers one and all, nor shall one of them escape death and the fates. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to heart. If I find that he speaks all things truly, I will clothe him in a cloak and tunic, fair raiment."

So she spoke, and the swineherd went when he had heard this saying; and coming up to Odysseus he spoke to him winged words:

"Ξεῖνε πάτερ, καλέει σε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
μήτηρ Τηλεμάχοιο· μεταλλῆσαι τί ἐ θυμὸς
ὑμῶν πόσει κέλεται, καὶ κήδεά περ πεπαθυῖη. 555
εἰ δέ κ' ἐ σε γνώη νημερτέα πάντ' ἐνέποντα,
ἔσσει σε χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε, τῶν σὺ μάλιστα
χρηΐζεις· σῖτον δὲ καὶ αἰτίζων κατὰ δῆμον
γαστέρα βοσκήσεις· δώσει δέ τοι ὅς κ' ἐθέλῃσι."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς· 560
"Εὖμαι', αἰψά κ' ἐγὼ νημερτέα πάντ' ἐνέποιμι
κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ·
οἶδα γὰρ εὖ περὶ κείνου, ὁμῆν δ' ἀνεδέγμεθ' οἷζιν.
ἀλλὰ μνηστήρων χαλεπῶν ὑποδείδι' ὁμιλον, 565
τῶν ἔβρις τε βίη τε σιδήρεον οὐρανὸν ἴκει.¹
καὶ γὰρ νῦν, ὅτε μ' οὔτος ἀνὴρ κατὰ δῶμα κίοντα
οὔ τι κακὸν βέξαντα βαλὼν ὀδύνῃσιν ἔδωκεν,
οὔτε τι Τηλέμαχος τό γ' ἐπήρκεσεν οὔτε τις ἄλλος.
τῷ νῦν Πηνελόπειον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἀνωχθεῖ
μεῖναι, ἐπειγομένην περ, ἐς ἥελιον καταδύντα· 570
καὶ τότε μ' εἰρήσθω πόσις περὶ νῶστιμόν ἡμαρ,
ἄσσοτέρω καθίσασα παραλ' πυρὶ· εἴματα γάρ τοι
λύγρ' ἔχω· οἶσθα καὶ αὐτός, ἐπεὶ σε πρῶθ' ἰκέτευσα."

"Ὡς φάτο, βῆ δὲ συφορβὸς, ἐπεὶ τὸν μῦθον ἄκουσε.
τὸν δ' ὑπὲρ οὐδοῦ βάντα προσηύδα Πηνελόπεια· 575
"Οὐ σὺ γ' ἄγεις, Εὖμαιε· τί τοῦτ' ἐνόησεν ἀλήτης;
ἢ τινά που δέσας ἐξαΐσιον ἦε καὶ ἄλλος
αἰδεῖται κατὰ δῶμα; κακὸς δ' αἰδοῖος ἀλήτης."

Τὴν δ' ὑπαμειβόμενος προσέφη, Εὖμαιε· 580
"Μυθεῖται κατὰ μοῖραν, ἃ πέρ κ' οἶοιτο καὶ ἄλλος, 580

¹ Line 565 is omitted in many MSS.

"Sir stranger, wise Penelope calls for thee, the mother of Telemachus, and her heart bids her make enquiry about her husband, though she has suffered many woes. And if she finds that thou speakest all things truly, she will clothe thee in a cloak and tunic, which thou needest most of all. As for thy food, thou shalt beg it through the land, and feed thy belly, and whoso will shall give it thee."

Then the much-enduring goodly Odysseus answered him: "Eumæus, soon will I tell all the truth to the daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope. For well do I know of Odysseus, and in common have we borne affliction. But I have fear of this throng of harsh wooers, whose wantonness and violence reach the iron heaven. For even now, when, as I was going through the hall doing no evil, this man struck me and hurt me, neither Telemachus nor any other did aught to ward off the blow. Wherefore now bid Penelope to wait in the halls, eager though she be, till set of sun; and then let her ask me of her husband regarding the day of his return, giving me a seat nearer the fire, for lo, the raiment that I wear is mean, and this thou knowest of thyself, for to thee first did I make my prayer."

So he spoke, and the swineherd went when he had heard this saying. And as he passed over the threshold Penelope said to him:

"Thou dost not bring him, Eumæus. What does the wanderer mean by this? Does he fear some one beyond measure, or does he idly feel ashamed in the house? 'Tis ill for a beggar to feel shame."

To her, then, swineherd Eumæus, didst thou make answer and say: "He speaks rightly, even as any other man would deem, in seeking to shun

ὑβρων ἄλυσκάων ἀνδρῶν ὑπερηνορεόντων.
 ἀλλὰ σε μείναι ἄνωγεν ἐς ἥλιον καταδύντα.
 καὶ δὲ σοὶ ὦδ' αὐτῇ πολὺ κύλλιον, ὦ βασίλεια,
 οἷον πρὸς ξεῖνον φάσθαι ἔπος ἢ δ' ἐπακοῦσαι."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια· 585
 "Οὐκ ἄφρων ὁ ξεῖνος· οἶσται, ὥς περ ἂν εἴη·
 οὐ γάρ πού τινες ὦδε καταθνητῶν ἀνθρώπων
 ἀνέρες ὑβρίζοντες ἀτάσθαλα μηχανόωνται."

Ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς ἀγόρευεν, ὁ δ' ὥχετο δῖος ὕφορβος
 μνηστήρων ἐς δμίλον, ἐπεὶ διεπέφραδε πάντα. 590
 αἴψα δὲ Τηλέμαχον ἔπια πτερόεντα προσηύδα,
 ἄγχι σχὼν κεφαλὴν, ἵνα μὴ πευθοῖαθ' οἱ ἄλλοι·

"ὦ φίλ', ἐγὼ μὲν ἄπειμι, σῦας καὶ κεῖνα φυλάξων,
 σὸν καὶ ἱμὸν βίοτον· σοὶ δ' ἐνθάδε πάντα μελόντων.
 αὐτὸν μὲν σε πρῶτα σάω, καὶ φράξω θυμῷ 595
 μή τι πάθῃς· πολλοὶ δὲ κακὰ φρονέουσιν Ἀχαιῶν,
 τοὺς Ζεὺς ἐξολέσειε πρὶν ἡμῖν πῆμα γενέσθαι."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα·
 "Ῥασσεται οὕτως, ἄττα· σὺ δ' ἔρχεο δειελιήσας·
 ἠῶθεν δ' ἵεναι καὶ ἄγειν ἱερήϊα καλά· 600
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ τάδε πάντα καὶ ἀθανάτοισι μελήσει."

ᾧς φάθ', ὁ δ' αὖτις ἄρ' ἔζετ' ἐϋξίστου ἐπὶ εἰφρον,
 πλησάμενος δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἰδητύος ἠδὲ ποτήτος
 βῆ ῥ' ἱμεναι μεθ' ὕας, λίπε δ' ἔρκεά τε μέγαρόν τε,
 πλεῖον δαιτυμόνων· οἱ δ' ὄρχηστὺ καὶ αἰοιδῇ 605
 τέρποντ'· ἦδη γὰρ καὶ ἐπήλυθε δειέλων ἡμαρ.

the insolence of overweening men. But he bids thee to wait till set of sun. And for thyself, too, it is far more seemly, O queen, to speak to the stranger alone, and to hear his words."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Not without wisdom is the stranger; he divines how it may be. There are no mortal men, methinks, who in wantonness devise such wicked folly as these."

So she spoke, and the goodly swineherd departed into the throng of the wooers when he had told her all. And straightway he spoke winged words to Telemachus, holding his head close to him that the others might not hear:

"Friend, I am going forth to guard the swine and all things there, thy livelihood and mine; but have thou charge of all things here. Thine own self do thou keep safe first of all, and let thy mind beware lest some ill befall thee, for many of the Achæans are devising evil, whom may Zeus utterly destroy before harm fall on us."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "So shall it be, father; go thy way when thou hast supped. And in the morning do thou come and bring goodly victims. But all matters here shall be a care to me and to the Immortals."

So he spoke, and the swineherd sat down again on the polished chair. But when he had satisfied his heart with meat and drink, he went his way to the swine, and left the courts and the hall full of banqueters. And they were making merry with dance and song, for evening had now come on.

Ἦλθε δ' ἐπὶ πτωχὸς πανδήμιος, δὲ κατὰ ἄστυ
 πτωχεύεσκ' Ἰθάκης, μετὰ δ' ἔπρεπε γαστέρι μάρπη
 ἀζηχὲς φαγέμεν καὶ πιέμεν· οὐδέ οἱ ἦν ἰς
 οὐδὲ βίη, εἶδος δὲ μάλα μέγας ἦν ὀράσθαι.

Ἀρναῖος δ' ὄνομ' ἔσκε· τὸ γὰρ θέτο πότνια μήτηρ δ
 ἐκ γενετῆς· Ἴρου δὲ νέοι κίκλησκον ἅπαντες,
 οὐνεκ' ἀπαγγέλλεσκε κίων, ὅτε πού τις ἀνῶγοι·
 δὲ β' ἔλθων Ὀδυσῆα διώκετο οἷο δόμοιο,
 καὶ μιν νικείων ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Εἰκε, γέρον, προθύρου, μὴ δὴ τάχα καὶ παδὸς ἔλκη. 10
 οὐκ ἄλεις ὅτι δὴ μοι ἐπιλλίζουσιν ἅπαντες,
 ἐλκόμεναι δὲ κέλονται; ἐγὼ δ' αἰσχύνομαι ἔμπης.
 ἀλλ' ἄνα, μὴ τύχα νῶϊν ἔρις καὶ χερσὶ γένηται.”

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Δαιμόνι, οὔτε τί σε ῥέξω κακὸν οὔτ' ἀγορεύω, 15
 οὔτε τινὰ φθονέω δόμεναι καὶ πόλλ' ἀνελόντα.
 οὐδὸς δ' ἀμφοτέρους ὅδε χεῖσεται, οὐδέ τί σε χρή
 ἀλλοτρίων φθονέειν· δοκέεις δὲ μοι εἶναι ἀλήτης
 ὥς περ ἐγὼν, δλβον δὲ θεοὶ μέλλουσιν ὀπάζειν.

BOOK XVIII

Now there came up a public beggar who was wont to beg through the town of Ithaca, and was known for his greedy belly, eating and drinking without end. No strength had he nor might, but in bulk was big indeed to look upon. Arnaeus was his name, for this name his honoured mother had given him at his birth; but Irus all the young men called him, because he used to run on errands¹ when anyone bade him. He came now, and was for driving Odysseus from his own house; and he began to revile him, and spoke winged words:

"Give way, old man, from the doorway, lest soon thou be even dragged out by the foot. Dost thou not see that all men are winking at me, and bidding me drag thee? Yet for myself, I am ashamed to do it. Nay, up with thee, lest our quarrel even come to blows."

Then with an angry glance from beneath his brow Odysseus of many wiles answered him: "Good fellow, I harm thee not in deed or word, nor do I begrudge that any man should give thee, though the portion he took up were a large one. This threshold will hold us both, and thou hast no need to be jealous for the goods of other folk. Thou seemest to me to be a vagrant, even as I am; and as for happy fortune, it is the gods that

¹ And is therefore compared to Iris, the messenger of Olympus.

χερσὶ δέ μὴ τι λίην προκαλίζεο, μή με χολώσῃς, 20
 μή σε γέρων περ ἔων στήθος καὶ χεῖλεα φύρσω
 αἵματος· ἤσυχῇ δ' ἂν ἔμοι καὶ μᾶλλον ἔτ' εἴη
 αὖριον· οὐ μὲν γάρ τί σ' ὑποστρέψεσθαι ὀίω
 δεύτερον ἐς μέγαρον Λαερτιάδew Ὀδυσῆος."

Τὸν δὲ χολωσόμενος προσεφώνεεν Ἴρος ἀλήτης· 25
 "ὦ πόποι, ὥς ὁ μολοβρὸς ἐπιτροχάδην ἡγορεύει,
 γρηῒ καμινοὶ ἴσος· ὃν ἂν κακὰ μητισαίμην
 κόπτων ἀμφοτέρῃσι, χαμαὶ δέ κε πάντας ὀδόντας
 γναθμῶν ἐξελάσαιμι συὸς ὡς ληϊβοτείρης.
 ζῶσαι νῦν, ἵνα πάντες ἐπιγνώωσι καὶ οἶδε 30
 μαρναμένους· πῶς δ' ἂν σὺ νεωτέρw ἀνδρὶ μίχοιο;"

"Ὡς οἱ μὲν προπάραιθε θυράων ὑψηλάων
 οὔδοῦ ἐπι ξεστοῦ πανθνμαδόν ὀκριδώντο.
 τοῖν δὲ ξυνέηχ' ἱερὸν μένος Ἀντινόοιο,
 ἡδὺ δ' ἄρ' ἐκγελίσσας μετεφώνει μνηστήρεσσιν· 35

"ὦ φίλοι, οὐ μὲν πῶ τι πάρος τοιοῦτον ἐτύχθη,
 οἷην τερπωλὴν θεός ἤγαγεν ἐς τόδε δῶμα.
 ὁ ξεῖνός τε καὶ Ἴρος ἐρίζετον ἀλλήλοισιν
 χερσὶ μαχέσσασθαι· ἀλλὰ ξυνελίσσομεν ὦκα."

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀνῆϊξαν γελῶντες, 40
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρα πτωχοὺς κακοσίμονας ἡγερέθοντο.
 τοῖσιν δ' Ἀντίνοος μετέφη, Εὐπείθεος υἱός·

"Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστήρες ἀγῆγορες, ὅφρα τι εἴπω.
 γαστέρες αἰδ' αἰγῶν κέατ' ἐν πυρὶ, τὰς ἐπὶ δόρπη
 κατθέμεθα κνίσῃς τε καὶ αἵματος ἐμπλήσαντες· 45
 ὁππότερος δέ κε νικήσῃ κρείσσων τε γένηται,

are like to give us that.¹ But with thy fists do not provoke me overmuch, lest thou anger me, and, old man though I am, I befoul thy breast and lips with blood. So should I have the greater peace to-morrow, for I deem not that thou shalt return a second time to the hall of Odysseus, son of Laertes."

Then, waxing wroth, the vagrant Irus said to him: "Now see how glily the filthy wretch talks, like an old kitchen-wife. But I will devise evil for him, smiting him left and right, and will scatter on the ground all the teeth from his jaws, as though he were a swine wasting the corn. Gird thyself now, that these men, too, may all know our fighting. But how couldst thou fight with a younger man?"

Thus on the polished threshold before the lofty doors they stirred one another's rage right heartily. And the strong and mighty Antinous heard the two, and, breaking into a merry laugh, he spoke among the wooers:

"Friends, never before has such a thing come to pass, that a god has brought sport like this to this house. Yon stranger and Irus are provoking one another to blows. Come, let us quickly set them on."

So he spoke, and they all sprang up laughing and gathered about the tattered beggars. And Antinous, son of Euphithes, spoke among them, and said:

"Hear me, ye proud wooers, that I may say somewhat. Here at the fire are goats' paunches lying, which we set there for supper, when we had filled them with fat and blood. Now whichever of the two wins and proves himself the better man, let him

¹ The thought is: we are both vagrants; whether either of us ever attains to a happier station in life, rests with the gods, who arbitrarily allot *δολος*; cf. vi. 188 f.

τάων ἦν κ' ἐβέλυσιν ἀναστάς αὐτὸς ἐλίσθω·
αἰεὶ δ' αὖθ' ἡμῖν μεταδαισεται, οὐδέ τιν' ἄλλον
πτωχὸν ἔσω μίσγεσθαι ἐάσομεν αἰτήσοντα."

Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀντίνοος, τοῖσι δ' ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος. 50
τοῖς δὲ δολοφρονέειν μετέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"ὦ φίλοι, οὐ πῶς ἔστι νεωτέρῳ ἀνδρὶ μάχεσθαι
ἄνδρα γέροντα, δύνῃ ἀρήμενον· ἀλλὰ με γαστήρ
ὀτρύνει κακοεργός, ἵνα πληγῇσι δαμείω.

ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν μοι πάντες ὁμόσσετε καρτερόν ὄρκον, 55
μή τις ἐπ' Ἴρῃ ἤρα φέρων ἐμὲ χειρὶ βαρεῖη
πλήξῃ ἀτασθάλων, τούτῳ δέ με ἴφι δαμάσσει."

Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀπώμυνον ὥς ἐκέλευεν.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ὁμοσάν τε τελευτήσαν τε τὸν ὄρκον,¹
τοῖς δ' αὖτις μετέειψ' ἱερὴ ἰς Τηλεμάχοιο· 60

"Ξεῖν', εἰ σ' ὀτρύνει κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ
τούτον ἀλέξασθαι, τῶν δ' ἄλλων μή τιν' Ἀχαιῶν
δείδιθ', ἐπεὶ πλεόνεσσι μαχήσεται ὅς κέ σε θείῃη·
ξεινοδόκος μὲν ἐγὼν, ἐπὶ δ' αἰγείτον βασιλῆης,
Ἀντίνοός τε καὶ Εὐρύμαχος, πεπνυμένω ἄμφω." 65

Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπῆνεον· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
ζώσατο μὲν ῥίκεσιν περὶ μῆδεα, φαῖνε δὲ μηροὺς
καλοὺς τε μεγάλους τε, φύνεν δὲ οἱ εὐρέες ὦμοι
στήθεά τε στιβαροὶ τε βραχίονες· αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη
ἄγχι παρισταμένη μέλει ἤλδανε ποιμένι λαῶν. 70
μνηστῆρες δ' ἄρα πάντες ὑπερφειλὼς ἀγάσαντο·
ὦδε δὲ τις εἶπεςκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον·

¹ Line 59 is omitted in some MSS.

rise and choose for himself which one of these he will. And furthermore he shall always feast with us, nor will we suffer any other beggar to join our company and beg of us."

So spoke Antinous, and his word was pleasing to them. Then with crafty mind Odysseus of many wiles spoke among them:

"Friends, in no wise may an old man that is overcome with woe fight with a younger. Howbeit my belly, that worker of evil, urges me on, that I may be overcome by his blows. But come now, do you all swear to me a mighty oath, to the end that no man, doing a favour to Irus, may deal me a foul blow with heavy hand, and so by violence subdue me to this fellow."

So he spoke, and they all gave the oath not to smite him, even as he bade. But when they had sworn and made an end of the oath, among them spoke again the strong and mighty Telemachus:

"Stranger, if thy heart and thy proud spirit bid thee beat off this fellow, then fear not thou any man of all the Achaean, for whoso strikes thee shall have to fight with more than thou. Thy host am I, and the princes assent hereto, Antinous and Eury-machus, men of prudence both."

So he spoke, and they all praised his words. But Odysseus girded his rags about his loins and showed his thighs, comely and great, and his broad shoulders came to view, and his eldest and mighty arms. And Athene drew nigh and made greater the limbs of the shepherd of the people. Then all the wooers marvelled exceedingly, and thus would one speak with a glance at his neighbour:

“Ἡ τάχα Ἴρος Ἀῖρος ἐπίσπαστον κακὸν ἔξει,
οἷν ἐκ ῥακέων ὁ γέρων ἐπιγονίδα φαίνει.”

“Ὡς ἄρ’ ἔφην, Ἴρῳ δὲ κακῶς ὠρίνετο θυμός. 75
ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς δρηστήρες ἄγον ζώσαντες ἀνύγκη
δειδιότα· σάρκες δὲ περιτραμέοντο μέλεσσιν.
Ἀντίνοος δ’ ἐνέμπεν ἔπος τ’ ἔφατ’ ἔκ τ’ ὀνόμαζεν·

“Νῦν μὲν μήτ’ εἴης, βουγυῖε, μήτε γένοιο,
εἰ δὴ τοῦτόν γε τρομέεις καὶ δαΐδας αἰνῶς, 80
ἄνδρα γέροντα, δῦν ἀρημένον, ἧ μιν ἰκάνει.
ἀλλ’ ἔκ τοι ἐρέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·
αἶ κέν σ’ οὔτος νικήσῃ κρείσσων τε γένηται,
πέμψω σ’ ἡπειρόνδε, βαλὼν ἐν νηὶ μελαίνῃ,
εἰς Ἑχέτον βασιλῆα, βροτῶν δηλήμονα πάντων, 85
ὃς κ’ ἀπὸ ῥίνα τάμῃσι καὶ οὔατα νηλέϊ χαλκῷ,
μήδεά τ’ ἐξερύσας δῶρ κυσὶν ὦμα δάσασθαι.”

“Ὡς φάτο, τῷ δ’ ἔτι μᾶλλον ὑπὸ τρόμος ἔλλαβε γυῖα.
ἐς μέσσον δ’ ἀναγόν· τῷ δ’ ἄμφω χεῖρας ἀνέσχον.
δὴ τότε μερμήριξε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς 90
ἢ ἐλάσει ὥς μιν ψυχὴ λίποι αὐθι πεσόντα,
ἢ ἐμὴν ἦκ’ ἐλάσειε τανύσσειν τ’ ἐπὶ γαίῃ.
ὦδε δὲ οἱ φρονέοντι δοῦσασατο κέρδιον εἶναι,
ἦκ’ ἐλάσαι, ἵνα μὴ μιν ἐπιφρασσάιαιτ’ Ἀχαιοί.
δὴ τότε ἄνασχομένῳ ὁ μὲν ἤλασε δεξιὸν ὦμον 95
Ἴρος, ὁ δ’ αὐχέν’ ἔλασσεν ὑπ’ οὔατος, ὅστέα δ’ εἴσω
ἔθλασεν· αὐτίκα δ’ ἦλθε κατὰ στόμα φοῖνιον αἶμα,

"Right soon shall Irus, un-Irused, have a bane of his own bringing, such a thigh does yon old man show from beneath his rags."

So they spoke, and the mind of Irus was miserably shaken; yet even so the serving men girded him, and led him out perforce all filled with dread, and his flesh trembled on his limbs. Then Antinous rated him and spoke, and addressed him:

"Better were it now, thou braggart, that thou wert not living, nor hadst ever been born, if thou quaildest and art so terribly afraid of this fellow—a man that is old and overcome by the woe that has come upon him. But I will speak out to thee, and this word shall verily be brought to pass. If this fellow conquers thee and proves the better man, I will fling thee into a black ship and send thee to the mainland to King Echetus, the maimer of all men, who will cut off thy nose and ears with the pitiless bronze, and will draw forth thy vitals and give them raw to dogs to rend."

So he spoke, and thereat yet greater trembling seized the other's limbs, and they led him into the ring and both men put up their hands. Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus was divided in mind whether he should strike him so that life should leave him even there as he fell, or whether he should deal him a light blow and stretch him on the earth. And, as he pondered, this seemed to him the better course, to deal him a light blow, that the Achæans might not take note of him. Then verily, when they had put up their hands, Irus let drive at the right shoulder, but Odysseus smote him on the neck beneath the ear and crushed in the bone, and straightway the red blood ran forth from his mouth, and down he fell in

καὶ δ' ἔπες' ἐν κοίῃσι μακίων, σὺν δ' ἤλασ' ὀδόντας
 λακτίζων ποσὶ γαῖαν· ἀτὰρ μνηστήρες ἀγαυοὶ
 χεῖρας ἀνασχόμενοι γέλω' ἔκθανον. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς 100
 ἔλκε διέκ' προθύροιο λαβὼν ποδός, ὄφρ' ἴκετ' αὐλήν,
 αἰθούσης τε θύρας· καὶ μιν ποτὶ ἐρκίον αὐλῆς
 εἰσεν ἀνακλίνας· σκῆπτρον δέ οἱ ἔμβαλε χεῖρί,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

"Ἐνταυθοῖ νῦν ἦσο σύας τε κύνας τ' ἀπερύκων, 105
 μῆδ' εὖ γέ ξείνων καὶ πτωχῶν κοῖρανος εἶναι
 λυγρὸς ἰών, μὴ ποῦ τι κακὸν καὶ μείζον ἐπαύρη."

"Ἡ ῥα καὶ ἀμφ' ὅμοισιν ἀεικέα βάλλετο πήρην,
 πυκνὰ ῥωγαλέην· ἐν δὲ στρόφος ἦεν ἀορτήρ.
 Ἄψ' δ' ὄγ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔξετο· τοὶ δ' ἴσαν εἰσὼ
 ἡδὺ γελῶντες καὶ δεικανόωντ' ἐπέεσσι· 111

"Ζεὺς τοι δοίη, ξεῖνε, καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι,
 ὅττι μάλιστ' ἐθέλεις καὶ τοι φίλον ἐπλετο θυμῷ,
 ὅς τοῦτον τὸν ἀναλτον ὀλητεῖνεν ἀπέπανσας
 ἐν δῆμῳ· τάχα γάρ μιν ἀνάξομεν ἡπειρόνδε 115
 εἰς Ἑχέτον βασιλῆα, βροτῶν δηλήμονα πάντων."

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφην, χαῖρεν δὲ κληδύνι δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.
 Ἀντίνοος δ' ἄρα οἱ μεγάλην παρὰ γαστέρα θῆκεν,
 ἐμπλείην κνίσσης τε καὶ αἵματος· Ἀμφίνομος δὲ
 ἄρτους ἐκ κανέοιο δύνω παρέθηκεν αἶρας 120
 καὶ δέπαί χερσέφ' δειδίσκετο, φώνησέν τε·

"Χαῖρε, πάτερ ὦ ξεῖνε, γένοιτό τοι ἔς περ ὀπίσσω
 ὄλβος· ἀτὰρ μὲν νῦν γε κακοῖς ἔχειαι πολλέσσι."

¹ After line 111 some MSS. insert the line *ἄρα τις ἐνέσσει
 τῶν ἐνερπυρόνων* (= li. 324), "And thus would one of the
 proud youths speak."

² Lines 115-6 were rejected by Aristarchus.

the dust with a moan, and he gnashed his teeth, kicking the ground with his feet. But the lordly wooers raised their hands, and were like to die with laughter. Then Odysseus seized him by the foot, and dragged him forth through the doorway until he came to the court and the gates of the portico. And he set him down and leaned him against the wall of the court, and thrust his staff into his hand and spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Sit there now, and scare off swine and dogs, and do not thou be lord of strangers and beggars, miserable that thou art, lest haply thou meet with some worse thing to profit withal."

He spoke, and flung about his shoulders his miserable wallet, full of holes, and slung by a twisted cord. Then back to the threshold he went and sat down; and the wooers went within, laughing merrily, and they greeted him, saying:

"May Zeus grant thee, stranger, and the other immortal gods what thou desirest most, and the dearest wish of thy heart, seeing that thou hast made this insatiate fellow to cease from begging in the land. For soon shall we take him to the mainland to King Echetus, the manner of all men."

So they spoke, and goodly Odysseus was glad at the word of omen. And Antinous set before him the great punch, filled with fat and blood, and Amphinomus took up two loaves from the basket and set them before him, and pledged him in a cup of gold, and said:

"Hail, Sir stranger; may happy fortune be thine in time to come, though now thou art the thrall of many sorrows."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Ἄμφινόμ', ἧ μάλα μοι δοκέεις πεπνυμένος εἶναι· 125
 τοῖου γὰρ καὶ πατρός, ἐπεὶ κλέος ἐσθλὸν ἄκουον,
 Νίσσον Δουλιχιῆα εὖν τ' ἔμεν ἀφνειὸν τε
 τοῦ σ' ἐκ φασε γενέσθαι, ἐπητῇ δ' ἀνδρὶ ἔοικας.
 τοῦνεκά τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καὶ μιν ἄκουσον·
 οὐδὲν ἀκιδνότερον γαῖα τρέφει ἀνθρώποιο, 130
 πάντων ὅσσα τε γαῖαν ἐπὶ πνείει τε καὶ ἔρπει.
 οὐ μὲν γὰρ ποτέ φησι κακὸν πείσεσθαι ὀπίσσω,
 ὅφρ' ἀρετὴν παρέχωσι θεοὶ καὶ γούνατ' ὀρώρη·
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ καὶ λιγυρὰ θεοὶ μάκαρες τελέσωσι,
 καὶ τὰ φέροι ἀεκαζόμενος τετληότε θυμῷ· 135
 τοῖος γὰρ νόος ἐστὶν ἐπιχθονίων ἀνθρώπων
 οἷον ἐπ' ἡμαρ ἄγῃσι πατὴρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε.
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ποτ' ἔμελλον ἐν ἀνδράσιν ὀλβιος εἶναι,
 πολλὰ δ' ἀτύσθαλ' ἔρεξα βίῃ καὶ κάρτει εἰκων,
 πατρί τ' ἐμῷ πίσυνος καὶ ἐμοῖσι κασιγνήτοισι. 140
 τῷ μὴ τίς ποτε πῦμπαν ἀνὴρ ἀθεμίστιος εἴη,
 ἀλλ' ὃ γε σιγῇ δῶρα θεῶν ἔχοι, ὅττι διδοῖεν.
 οἱ' ὁρώμην μνηστῆρας ἀτύσθαλα μηχανόωντας,
 κτήματα κείροντας καὶ ἀτιμίζοντας ἄκοιτιν
 ἀνδρός, ὃν οὐκέτι φημὶ φίλων καὶ πατρίδος αἵης 145
 δηρὸν ἀπέσσεσθαι· μάλα δὲ σχεδόν. ἄλλὰ σε δαίμων
 οἴκαδ' ὑπεξαγάγοι, μῆδ' ἀντιάσειας ἐκείνῳ,
 ὅππότε νοστήσειε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν·
 οὐ γὰρ ἀναιμωτὶ γε διακρινέεσθαι οἴω
 μνηστῆρας καὶ κείνον, ἐπεὶ κε μέλαθρον ὑπέλθῃ." 150
 ὣς φάτο, καὶ σπείσας ἔπιεν μελιγδέα οἶνον,
 ἅψ δ' ἐν χερσὶν ἔθηκε δέπας κοσμήτορι λαῶν.

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Amphinomus, verily thou seemest to me to be a man of prudence; and such a man, too, was thy father, for I have heard of his fair fame, that Nisus of Dulichium was a brave man and a wealthy. From him, they say, thou art sprung, and thou seemest a man soft of speech. Wherefore I will tell thee, and do thou give heed and hearken. Nothing feeblcr does earth nurture than man, of all things that on earth are breathing and moving. For he thinks that he will never suffer evil in time to come, so long as the gods give him prosperity and his knees are quick; but when again the blessed gods decree him sorrow, this too he bears in sore despite with steadfast heart; for the spirit of men upon the earth is even such as the day which the father of gods and men brings upon them. For I, too, was once like to be prosperous among men, but many deeds of wantonness I wrought, yielding to my might and my strength, and trusting in my father and my brethren. Wherefore let no man soever be lawless at any time, but let him keep in silence whatever gifts the gods give. Aye, for I see the wooers devising wantonness, wasting the wealth and dishonouring the wife of a man who, I tell thee, will not long be away from his friends and his native land; nay, he is very near. But may some god lend thee forth hence to thy home, and mayest thou not meet him when he comes home to his dear native land. For not without bloodshed, methinks, will the wooers and he part one from the other when once he comes beneath his roof."

So he spoke, and pouring a libation, drank of the honey-sweet wine, and then gave back the cup into the hands of the marshaller of the people. But

αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ διὰ δῶμο φίλον τετιημένος ἦτορ,
 νευστάζων κεφαλῇ· δὴ γὰρ κακὸν ὄσσετο θυμός.
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς φύγε κῆρα· πέδησε ἐξ καὶ τὸν Ἀθήνη 156
 Τηλεμάχου ὑπὸ χερσὶ καὶ ἔγχεϊ ἴφι δαμῆναι.
 ἄψ δ' αὖτις κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετ' ἐπὶ θρόνου ἐνθεν ἀνέστη.

Τῇ δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
 κοῦρῃ Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρονι Πηνελοπείρῃ,
 μνηστῆρεςσι φανῆναι, ὅπως πετάσεις μάλιστα 160
 θυμὸν μνηστήρων ἰδὲ τιμήσσεα γένοιτο
 μᾶλλον πρὸς πόσιός τε καὶ υἱέος ἢ πάρος ἦεν.

ἄχρεϊόν δ' ἐγέλασσευ ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμοζεν·
 "Εὐρυνόμη, θυμός μοι ἐέλδεται, οὐ τι πάρος γε,
 μνηστῆρεςσι φανῆναι, ἀπεχθομένοισι περ ἔμπης· 165
 παιδὶ δέ κεν εἵποιμι ἔπος, τό κε κέρδιον εἴη,
 μὴ πάντα μνηστήρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισιν ὁμιλεῖν,
 οἳ τ' εὖ μὲν βάζουσι, κακῶς δ' ὀπιθεν φρονέουσι."

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Εὐρυνόμη ταμὴν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·
 "Ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε πάντα, τέκος, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες. 170
 ἀλλ' ἴθι καὶ σὺ παιδὶ ἔπος φάο μῆδ' ἐπίκευθε,
 χρῶτ' ἀπονιψάμενῃ καὶ ἐπιχρίσασα παρειάς·
 μῆδ' οὕτω δακρύοισι πεφυρμένη ἀμφὶ πρόσωπα
 ἔρχευ, ἐπεὶ κάκιον πενθήμεναι ἕκριτον αἰεὶ.
 ἤδη μὲν γὰρ τοι παῖς τηλίκος, ὃν σὺ μάλιστα 175
 ἥρῳ ὑθανάτοισι γενειήσαντα ιδέσθαι."

Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Εὐρυνόμη, μὴ ταῦτα παραῖδα, κηδομένη περ,
 χρῶτ' ἀπονίπτεσθαι καὶ ἐπιχρίεσθαι ἀλοιφῇ·
 ἀγλαῖην γὰρ ἐμοὶ γε θεοί, τοὶ Ὀλυμπον ἔχουσιν, 180
 ὤλεσαν, ἐξ οὗ κείνος ἔβη κοίτης ἐνὶ νηυσίν.

Amphinomus went through the hall with a heavy heart, bowing his head; for his spirit boded bane. Yet even so he did not escape his fate, but him, too, did Athene set in bonds so that he might be slain outright at the hands of Telemachus and by his spear. So he sat down again on the chair from which he had risen.

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, put it in the heart of the daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, to show herself to the wooers, that she might set their hearts a-flutter and win greater honour from her husband and her son than heretofore. Then she laughed a meaningless laugh and spoke, and addressed the nurse:

"Eurynome, my heart longs, though it has never longed before, to show myself to the wooers, hateful though they are. Also I would say a word to my son that will be for his profit, namely, that he should not consort ever with the overweening wooers, who speak him fair but have evil plans thereafter."

Then the housewife, Eurynome, spoke to her and said: "Aye, verily, child, all this hast thou spoken aright. Go, then, reveal thy word to thy son and hide it not; but first wash thy body and anoint thy face, and go not as thou art with both cheeks stained with tears. Go, for it is ill to grieve over without ceasing. For now, behold, thy son is of such an age, and it has been thy dearest prayer to the immortals to see him a bearded man."

Then wise Penelope answered her again: "Eurynome, beguile me not thus in thy love to wash my body and anoint me with oil. All beauty of mine have the gods, that hold Olympus, destroyed since the day when my lord departed in the hollow ships.

ἀλλά μοι Αὐτονόην τε καὶ Ἴπποδάμειαν ἀνωχθε
ἐλθέμεν, ὅφρα κέ μοι παρστήτεον ἐν μεγάροισιν·
οἷη δ' οὐκ εἴσειμι μετ' ἀνέρας· αἰδέομαι γάρ·"

ὣς ἄρ' ἔφη, γρη῏ς δὲ διέκ μεγάροιο βεβήκει 185
ἀγγελλούσα γυναιξὶ καὶ ὀτρυνέουσα νέεσθαι.

Ἔσθ' αὖτ' ἄλλ' ἐνόησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
κούρῃ Ἰκαρίοιο κατὰ γλυκὺν ὕπνον ἔχευεν,
εὖδε δ' ἀνακλωθεῖσα, λύθεν δέ οἱ ἄψα πάντα
αὐτοῦ ἐνὶ κλιντῇρι· τέως δ' ἄρα διὰ θεάων 190
ἄμβροτα δῶρα δίδου, ἵνα μιν θησαΐατ' Ἀχαιοί.
κύλλει μὲν οἱ πρῶτα προσώπατα καλὰ κύθηρεν
ἄμβροσίφ, οἷφ περ εὐστέφανος Κυθήρεια
χρίεται, εἴτ' ἂν Ἴη Χαρίτων χορὸν ἱμερόεντα·
καὶ μιν μακροτέρην καὶ πᾶσσοις θῆκεν ἰδέσθαι, 195
λευκοτέρην δ' ἄρα μιν θῆκε πριστοῦ ἐλέφαντος.
ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς ἔρξασ' ἀπεβήσετο διὰ θεάων,
ἦλθον δ' ἀμφίπολοι λευκῶλενοι ἐκ μεγάροιο
φθόγγφ ἐπερχόμεναι· τὴν δὲ γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἀνήκε,
καὶ ῥ' ἀπομόρξατο χερσὶ παρειὰς φώνησέν τε· 200

"Ἢ με μᾶλ' αἰνοπαθῇ μαλακὸν περὶ κῶμ' ἐκάλυψεν.
αἶθε μοι ὣς μαλακὸν θάνατον πόροι Ἄρτεμις ἀγνή
αὐτίκα νῦν, ἵνα μηκέτ' ὀδυρομένη κατὰ θυμὸν
αἰῶνα φθινύθω, πόσιος ποθέουσα φίλοιο
παντοίην ἀρετὴν, ἐπεὶ ἕξοχος ἦεν Ἀχαιῶν." 205

ὣς φασμένη κατέβαιν' ὑπερώϊα σιγαλόεντα,
οὐκ οἷη· ἅμα τῇ γε καὶ ἀμφίπολοι δῦ' ἔποντο.
ἡ δ' ὅτε δὴ μνηστῆρας ἀφίκετο διὰ γυναικῶν,

But bid Autonoe and Hippodamels come to me, that they may stand by my side in the hall. Alone I will not go among men, for I am ashamed."

So she spoke, and the old woman went forth through the chamber to bear tidings to the women, and bid them come.

Then again the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, took other counsel. On the daughter of Icarus she shed sweet sleep, and she leaned back and slept there on her couch, and all her joints were relaxed. And meanwhile the fair goddess was giving her immortal gifts, that the Achaeans might marvel at her. With balm¹ she first made fair her beautiful face, with balm ambrosial, such as that wherewith Cytherea, of the fair crown, anoints herself when she goes into the lovely dance of the Graces; and she made her taller, too, and statelier to behold, and made her whiter than new-sawn ivory. Now when she had done this the fair goddess departed, and the white-armed handmaids came forth from the chamber and drew near with sound of talking. Then sweet sleep released Penelope, and she rubbed her cheeks with her hands, and said:

"Ah, in my utter wretchedness soft slumber enfolded me. Would that pure Artemis would even now give so soft a death, that I might no more waste my life away with sorrow at heart, longing for the manifold excellence of my dear husband, for that he was pre-eminent among the Achaeans."

So saying, she went down from the bright upper chamber, not alone, for two handmaids attended her. Now when the fair lady reached the woovers she

¹ "αἰθέρι δαῖμονος" appears to be used in a concrete sense, for some kind of paint or ointment." (Monro.)

στῇ ῥα παρὰ σταθμὸν τέγεος πύκα ποιητοῖο,
 ἅντα παρείδων σχομένη λιπαρὰ κρήδεμνα· 210
 ἀμφίπολος δ' ἄρα οἱ κεδνὴ ἐκάτερθε παρέστη.
 τῶν δ' αὐτοῦ λυτο γούνατ', ἔρρι δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐβέλχθεν,
 πάντες δ' ἠρήσαντο παρὰ λεχέεσσι κλιθῆναι.
 ἦ δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχον προσεφώνεεν, δὴ φίλον υἷον·
 "Τηλέμαχ', οὐκέτι τοι φρένες ἔμπεδοι οὐδὲ νόημα· 215
 παῖς ἔτ' ἐὼν καὶ μᾶλλον ἐνὶ φρεσὶ κέρδε' ἐνώμας·
 νῦν δ', ὅτε δὴ μέγας ἐσσι καὶ ἤβης μέτρον ἰκάνεις,
 καὶ κέν τις φαίη γόνον ἔμμεναι ὀλβίου ἀνδρός,
 ἐς μέγεθος καὶ κάλλος ὀρώμενος, ἀλλότριος φῶς,
 οὐκέτι τοι φρένες εἰσὶν ἐναίσιμοι οὐδὲ νόημα. 220
 οἶον δὴ τόδε ἔργον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐτύχθη,
 δε τὸν ξεῖνον ἔασας ἀεικισθῆμεναι οὕτως.
 πῶς νῦν, εἴ τι ξεῖνος ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισιν
 ἤμενος ὥδε πάθοι ῥυστακτύος ἐξ ἀλσγεινῆς;
 σοὶ κ' αἰσχὸς λῶβη τε μετ' ἀνθρώποισι πέλοιτο." 225
 Τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤνδα·
 "Μῆτερ ἐμή, τὸ μὲν οὐ σε νεμεσσῶμαι κεχολῶσθαι·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ θυμῷ νοέω καὶ οἶδα ἔκαστα,
 ἐσθλὰ τε καὶ τὰ χεῖρεια· πῆρος δ' ἐτι νῆπιος ἦα.¹
 ἀλλὰ τοι οὐ δύναμαι πεπνυμένα πάντα νοῆσαι· 230
 ἐκ γάρ με πλήσσουσι παρήμενοι ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος
 οἶδε κακὰ φρονέοντες, ἔμοι δ' οὐκ εἰσὶν ἄρωγοί.
 οὐ μὲν τοι ξεῖνου γε καὶ Ἴρου μῶλος ἐτύχθη
 μνηστήρων ἰότητι, βίη δ' ὁ γε φέρτερος ἦεν.
 αἱ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίῃ καὶ Ἀπολλοῦν, 235

¹ Line 229 was rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

stood by the doorpost of the well-built hall, holding before her face her shining veil; and a faithful hand-maid stood on either side of her. Straightway then the knees of the wooers were loosened and their hearts enchanted with love, and they all prayed, each that he might lie by her side. But she spoke to Telemachus, her dear son:

"Telemachus, thy mind and thy thoughts are no longer steadfast as heretofore. When thou wast but a child thou wast wont to revolve in thy mind thoughts more cunning; but now that thou art grown and hast reached the bounds of manhood, and wouldest be called a rich man's son by one who looked only to thy stature and thy comeliness, being himself a stranger from afar, thy mind and thy thoughts are no longer right as before. What a thing is this that has been done in these halls, that thou hast suffered yon stranger to be so maltreated? How now, if the stranger, while sitting thus in our house, should come to some harm through grievous mishandling? On thee, then, would fall shame and disgrace among men."

Then wise Telemachus answered her: "My mother, in this matter I take it not ill that thou art filled with anger. Yet of myself I know in my heart and understand each thing, the good and the evil, whereas heretofore I was but a child. But I am not able to plan all things wisely, for these men here thwart my will, keeping by me, one on this side and one on that, with evil purpose, and I have none to help me. Howbeit, I can tell thee, this battle between the stranger and Irus fell not out according to the mind of the wooers, but the stranger proved the better man. I would, O father Zeus, and Athene, and

οὕτω νῦν μνηστῆρες ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισι
 νεύοιεν κεφαλὰς δεδμημένοι, οἳ μὲν ἐν αὐλῇ,
 οἳ δ' ἐντοσθε δόμοιο, λελύτο δὲ γυνὴ ἐκίστου,
 ὡς νῦν Ἴρος κείνος ἐπ' αὐλείῃσι θύρῃσιν
 ἦσται νευστάζων κεφαλῇ, μεθύοντι ἰοικώς,
 οὐδ' ὀρθὸς στήναι δύναται ποσὶν οὐδὲ νέεσθαι
 οἴκαδ', ὅπη οἱ νόστος, ἐπεὶ φίλα γυνὴ λέλυνται." 240

Ὡς οἳ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον·
 Εὐρύμαχος δ' ἐπέεσσι προσηύδα Πηνελόπειαν·

"Κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
 εἰ πάντες σε ἴδοιεν ἂν Ἰάσον Ἀργος Ἀχαιοί,
 πλεονέες κε μνηστῆρες ἐν ὑμετέροισι δόμοισιν
 ἠῶθεν δαινύατ', ἐπεὶ περίεσσι γυναικῶν
 εἶδος τε μέγεθος τε ἰδὲ φρένας ἐνδον ἔσας." 245

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα περίφρων Πηνελόπεια· 250
 "Εὐρύμαχ', ἡ τοι ἐμὴν ἀρετὴν εἶδος τε δέμας τε
 ᾤλεσαν ἰθάνατοι, ὅτε Ἴλιον εἰσανέβαινον
 Ἀργεῖοι, μετὰ τοῖσι δ' ἐμὸς πόσις ἦεν Ὀδυσσεύς.
 εἰ κείνός γ' ἔλθων τὸν ἐμὸν βίον ἀμφιπολαύοι,
 μεῖζόν κε κλῖος εἴη ἐμὸν καὶ κῆλλιον οὕτως. 255

νῦν δ' ἄχομαι· τόσα γὰρ μοι ἐπέσσειεν κακὰ δαίμων.
 ἡ μὲν δὴ ὅτε τ' ἦε λιπὼν κῆρα πατρίδα γαῖαν,
 δεξιτερὴν ἐπὶ καρπῷ ἔλων ἐμὲ χεῖρα προσηύδα·

"ὦ γύναι, οὐ γὰρ δῖω εὐκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς
 ἐκ Τροίης εὐ πάντας ἀπήμονας ἀπονέεσθαι· 260
 καὶ γὰρ Τρῳάς φασι μαχητὰς ἐμμεναι ἄνδρας,
 ἡμὲν ἀκοντιστὰς ἠδὲ βυτῆρας οἰστῶν
 ἵππων τ' ᾠκυπόδων ἐπιβήτορας, οἳ κε τάχιστα
 ἔκριναν μέγα νεῖκος ὁμοίου πολέμοιο.
 τῷ οὐκ οἶδ' ἢ κέν μ' ἀνέσει θεός, ἢ κεν ἀλώω 265
 αὐτοῦ ἐνὶ Τροίῃ· σοὶ δ' ἐνθάδε πάντα μελόντων.

Apollo, that even now the wooers were thus subdued in our halls, and were hanging their heads, some in the court and some within the hall, and that each man's limbs were loosened, even as Irus now sits yonder by the gate of the court, hanging his head like a drunken man, and cannot stand erect upon his feet, or go home to whatsoever place he is wont to go, because his limbs are loosened."

Thus they spoke to one another. But Eurymachus addressed Penelope, and said:

"Daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, if all the Achæans throughout Iasian Argos could see thee, even more wooers would be feasting in your halls from to-morrow on, for thou excellest all women in comeliness and stature, and in the wise heart within thee."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Eurymachus, all excellence of mine, both of beauty and of form, the immortals destroyed on the day when the Argives embarked for Illos, and with them went my husband Odysseus. If he might but come and watch over this life of mine, greater would be my fame and fairer. But now I am in sorrow, so many woes has some god brought upon me. Verily, when he went forth and left his native land, he clasped my right hand by the wrist, and said:

"Wife, I deem not that the well-greaved Achæans will all return from Troy safe and unscathed, for the Trojans, men say, are men of war, hurlers of the spear, and drawers of the bow, and drivers of swift horses, such as most quickly decide the great strife of equal war. Therefore I know not whether the god will bring me back, or whether I shall be cut off there in the land of Troy: so have thou charge of

μεμνήσθαι πατρός καί μητέρος ἐν μεγάροισιν
 ὡς νῦν, ἥ ἔτι μᾶλλον ἐμεῦ ἀπονόσφιν ἐόντος·
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν δὴ παῖδα γενεήσαστα ἴδῃαι,
 γήμασθ' ὅ κ' ἐθέλῃσθα, τεὸν κατὰ δῶμα λιπούσα.' 270

“Κεῖνος τὼς ἀγόρευε· τὰ δὲ νῦν πάντα τελεῖται.
 νύξ δ' ἔσται ὅτε δὴ στυγερὸς γάμος ἀντιβολήσῃ
 οὐλομένης ἐμέθεν, τῆς τε Ζεὺς δλβον ἀπηύρα.
 ἀλλὰ τόδ' αἶνδ' ἄχος κραδίην καὶ θυμὸν ἰκίνει·
 μνηστήρων οὐχ ἤδε δίκη τὸ πάροιθε τέτυκτο· 275
 οἳ τ' ἀγαθὴν τε γυναῖκα καὶ ἀφνειοῖο θύγατρα
 μνηστεύειν ἐθέλωσι καὶ ἀλλήλοισι ἐρίσωσιν,
 αὐτοὶ τοὶ γ' ἀπάγουσι βόας καὶ ἵφια μῆλο,
 κούρης δαῖτα φίλοισι, καὶ ἀγλαὰ δῶρα διδοῦσιν·
 ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀλλότριον βίον τινος νήποιον ἐδουσιν.” 280

“Ὡς φάτο, γήθησεν δὲ πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 οὐνεκα τῶν μὲν δῶρα παρέλκετο, θέλγε δὲ θυμὸν
 μελιχίῳις ἐπέεσσιν, νόος δὲ οἱ ἄλλα μενοίνα.

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Ἀντίνοος προσέφη, Εὐπείθεος υἱός,
 “Κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρον Πηνελόπεια, 285
 δῶρα μὲν ὅς κ' ἐθέλῃσιν Ἀχαιῶν ἐνθάδ' ἐνεῖκαι,
 δέξασθ'· οὐ γὰρ καλὸν ἀνίησθαι δόσιν ἐστίν·
 ἡμεῖς δ' οὔτ' ἐπὶ ἔργα πύρος γ' ἴμεν οὔτε πῃ ἄλλη,
 πρὶν γέ σε τῷ γήμασθαι Ἀχαιῶν ὅς τις ἄριστος.”

“Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀντίνοος, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπιήνδατο μῦθος· 290
 δῶρα δ' ἄρ' οἰσέμεναι πρόεσαν κήρυκα ἕκαστος.
 Ἀντινόφ μὲν ἔνευκε μέγαν περικαλλέα πέπλον,
 ποικίλον ἐν δ' ἄρ' ἔσαν περόναι δυοκαίδεκα πᾶσαι
 χρύσειαι, κληῖσιν ἐυγνήμπτοις ἀραρυῖαι.
 ὄρμον δ' Εὐρυμάχῃ πολυδαίδαλον αὐτίκ' ἔνευκε, 295

all things here. Be mindful of my father and my mother in the halls even as thou art now, or yet more, while I am far away. But when thou shalt see my son a bearded man, wed whom thou wilt, and leave thy house."

"So he spoke, and now all this is being brought to pass. The night shall come when a hateful marriage shall fall to the lot of me accursed, whose happiness Zeus has taken away. But herein has bitter grief come upon my heart and soul, for such as yours was never the way of wooers heretofore. They who are fain to woo a lady of worth and the daughter of a rich man and vie with one another, these bring of themselves cattle and goodly flocks, a banquet for the friends of the bride, and give to her glorious gifts; but they do not devour the livelihood of another without atonement."

So she spoke, and the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus was glad, because she drew from them gifts, and beguiled their souls with gentle words, but her mind was set on other things.

Then Antinous, son of Eupheithes, spoke to her again; and said: "Daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, as for gifts, if any man of the Achaeans is minded to bring them hither, do thou take them; for it is not well to refuse a gift. But for us, we will go neither to our lands nor elsewhere, until thou weddest him whosoever is best of the Achaeans."

So spoke Antinous, and his word was pleasing to them, and each man sent forth a herald to bring his gifts. For Antinous he brought a large and beautiful robe, richly brodered, and in it were golden brooches, twelve in all, fitted with curved clasps. And a chain did another straightway bring to

χρύσειον, ἠλέκτροισιν ἑρμένον ἥλιον ὥς.
 ἔρματα δ' Εὐρυδάμαντι δὴν θεράποντες ἔνεικαν,
 τρήγληνα μορδόντα· χάρις δ' ἀπελάμπετο πολλή.
 ἐκ δ' ἄρα Πεισάνδροιο Πολυκτορίδαο ἀνακτος
 ἰσθμον ἤνεικεν θεράπων, περικαλλές ἄγαλμα. 200
 ἄλλο δ' ἄρ' ἄλλος δῶρον Ἀχαιῶν καλὸν ἔνεικεν.
 ἦ μὲν ἔπειτ' ἀνέβαιν' ὑπερώϊα διὰ γυναικῶν,
 τῇ δ' ἄρ' ἄμ' ἀμφίπολοι ἔφερον περικαλλέα δῶρα.

Οἱ δ' εἰς ὄρχηστὺν τε καὶ ἱμερόεσσαν ἀοιδὴν
 τρεψάμενοι τέρποντο, μένον δ' ἐπὶ ἔσπερον ἔλθειν. 200
 τοῖσι δὲ τερπομένοισι μέλας ἐπὶ ἔσπερος ἦλθεν.
 αὐτίκα λαμπτήρας τρεῖς ἵστασαν ἐν μεγύροισιν,
 δφρα φαίνοινεν· περὶ δὲ ξύλα κάγκανα θῆκαν,
 αἶα πάλαι, περίκηλα, νέον κεκεασμένα χαλκῷ,
 καὶ δαδὰς μετέμσγον ἀμοιβηδὶς δ' ἀνέφαινον 310
 δμῶαί Ὀδυσσῆος ταλασίφρονος. αὐτὰρ ὁ τῆσιν
 αὐτὸς διογενὴς μετέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"Δμῶαί Ὀδυσσῆος, δὴν οἰχομένοιο ἀνακτος,
 ἔρχεσθε πρὸς δῶμαθ', ἵν' αἰδοίῃ βασιλεια·
 τῇ δὲ παρ' ἡλείκατα στροφαλίζετε, τέρπετε δ' αὐτὴν 315
 ἡμεναι ἐν μεγύρῳ, ἥ εἴρια πείκετε χερσίν·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ τοῦτοισι φάος πάντεσσι παρέξω.
 ἦν περ γάρ κ' ἐθέλωσιν εὐθρονον Ἡῶ μίμνειν,
 οὐ τί με νικήσουσι πολυτλήμων δὲ μάλ' εἰμή."
 ὣς ἔφαθ', αἱ δ' ἐγέλασαν, ἐς ἀλλήλας δὲ ἰδόντο. 320
 τὸν δ' αἰσχρῶς ἐνένιπε Μελανθῶ καλλιπάρης,

¹ The word *moronta* is of wholly unknown significance. Various etymologies are given by Leaf on *Il.* xiv. 183; see also Agar, *Homericæ*, pp. 220 f. The rendering given above assumes a connection with *mérōn*, mulberry.

Eurymachus, one cunningly wrought of gold, strung with amber beads, bright as the sun. A pair of earrings his squires brought to Eurydamas, with three clust'ring¹ drops, and great grace shone therefrom. And out of the house of lord Peisander, son of Polyctor, his squire brought a necklace, a jewel exceeding fair. So of the Achæans one brought one fair gift and one another. But she thereafter, the fair lady, went up to her upper chamber, and her handmaids bare for her the beautiful gifts.

But the woomen turned to dance and gladsome song, and made them merry, and waited for evening to come on. And as they made merry dark evening came upon them. Presently they set up three braziers in the hall to give them light, and round about them placed dry faggots, long since seasoned and hard, and newly split with the axe; and in the spaces between they set torches²; and in turn the handmaids of Odysseus, of the steadfast heart, kindled the flame. Then Zeus-born Odysseus, of many wiles, himself spoke among the maids, and said:

"Maidens of Odysseus, that has long been gone, go to the chambers where your honoured queen abides, and twist the yarn by her side, and make glad her heart, as you sit in the chamber, or card the wool with your hands; but I will give light to all these men. For if they wish to wait for fair-throned Dawn, they shall in no wise outdo me. I am one that can endure much."

So he spoke, and the maids broke into a laugh, and glanced at one another. And fair-checked Melantho rated him shamefully, Melantho, whom Dolius

¹ Or possibly "set among them (the faggots) burning pine-knots."

τὴν Δολίος μὲν ἔτικτε, κόμισσε δὲ Πηνελόπεια,
 παῖδα δὲ ὣς ἀτίταλλε, δίδου δ' ἄρ' ἀθύρματα θυμῷ·
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς ἔχε πένθος ἐνὶ φρεσὶ Πηνελοπείης,
 ἀλλ' ἦ γ' Εὐρυμῆχφ μισγέσκετο καὶ φιλέσκειν. 325
 ἦ ῥ' Ὀδυσῆ' ἐνέειπεν ὀνειδείοις ἐπέεσσιν·

“Ξεῖνε τάλαν, σὺ γέ τις φρένας ἐκπεπαταγμένος ἐσσί,
 οὐδ' ἐθέλεις εὖδειν χαλκῆϊον ἐς δόμον ἔλθων,
 ἢέ που ἐς λείσχην, ἀλλ' ἐνθάδε πόλλ' ἀγορεύεις,
 θαρσαλέως πολλοῖσι μετ' ἀνδράσιν, οὐδέ τι θυμῷ 330
 ταρβεῖς· ἦ ῥῦ σε οἶνος ἔχει φρένας, ἦ νύ τοι αἰεὶ
 τοιοῦτος νόος ἐστίν· ὃ καὶ μεταμῶνια βάζεις.¹
 ἦ αλίεις, ὅτι Ἴρου ἐνίκησας τὸν ἀλήτην;
 μὴ τίς τοι τάχα Ἴρου ἀμείνων ἄλλος ἀναστῇ,
 ὃς τίς σ' ἀμφὶ κάρη κεκοπῶις χερσὶ στιβαρῇσι· 335
 δώματος ἐκπέμψῃσι, φορυῖας αἵματι πολλῷ.”

Τὴν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Ἡ τάχα Τηλεμάχφ ἐρέω, κύον, οἷ ἀγορεύεις,
 κείσθ' ἔλθων, ἵνα σ' αὔθι διὰ μελεῖσσι τάμῃσιν.”

“Ὡς εἰπὼν ἐπίεσσε διεπτοίησε γυναῖκας. 340
 βὰν δ' ἱμεναι διὰ δῶμα, λύθεν δ' ὑπὸ γυνὴ ἐκάστης
 ταρβοσύνη· φὰν γάρ μιν ἀληθέα μυθήσασθαι.
 αὐτὰρ ὁ παρ' λαμπτήρσι φαείνων αἰθομένοισιν
 ἐστήκειν ἐς πάντα ὀρώμενος· ἄλλα δέ οἱ κῆρ
 ὥρμαινε φρεσὶν ᾗσιν, ἃ ῥ' οὐκ ἀτέλεστα γένοντο. 345

Μνηστήρας δ' οὐ πᾶμπαν ἀγήνορας εἶα Ἀθήνη
 λῶβης ἴσχεσθαι θυμαλγέος, ὅφρ' ἔτι μᾶλλον
 δῦή ἄχος κραδίην Λαερτιάδew Ὀδυσῆος.

¹ Lines 330-2 were rejected by Aristarchus.

begot, but whom Penelope had reared and cherished as her own child, and gave her playthings to her heart's desire. Yet even so she had at heart no sorrow for Penelope, but she loved Eurymachus and was wont to lie with him. She then rated Odysseus with reviling words:

"Wretched stranger, thou art but a crack-brained fellow, unwilling to go to a smithy to sleep, or to a common lodge, but pratest here continually, unshamed in the company of many lords, and hast no fear at heart. Surely wine has mastered thy wits, or else thy mind is ever thus, that thou dost babble idly. Art thou beside thyself because thou hast beaten that vagrant Irus? Beware, lest presently another better than Irus shall rise up against thee to beat thee about the head with heavy hands, and befoul thee with streams of blood, and send thee forth from the house."

Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered her: "Presently shall I go yonder, thou shameless thing, and tell Telemachus, shree thou speakest thus, that on the spot he may cut thee limb from limb."

So he spoke, and with his words scattered the women, who fled through the hall, and the limbs of each were loosened beneath her in terror, for they thought that he spoke truth. But Odysseus took his stand by the burning braziers to give light, and looked upon all the men. Yet other things was the heart within him pondering—things that were not to be unfulfilled.

But Athene would in no wise suffer the proud wooers to abstain from bitter outrage, that pain might sink yet deeper into the heart of Odysseus,

τοῖσιν δ' Εὐρύμαχος, Πολύβου πάϊς, ἤρχ' ἀγορεύειν,
κερτομένων Ὀδυσῆα· γέλω δ' ἐτάροισιν ἔτευχε. 350

"Κέκλυτέ μευ, μνηστῆρες ἀγακλειτῆς βασιλείης,
ὄφρ' εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.
οὐκ ἄβει δδ' ἀνὴρ Ὀδυσῆιον ἐς δῶμον ἵκει
ἔμπης μοι δοκίει δαῖδων σέλας ἔμμεναι αὐτοῦ
κάκ κεφαλῆς, ἐπεὶ οὐ οἱ ἐνὶ τρίχες οὐδ' ἡβαιαί." 355

"Ἢ ῥ', ἅμα τε προσέειπεν Ὀδυσσεῖα πτολίπορθον·
"Ἐεῖν, ἦ ἄρ κ' ἐθέλοις θητευέμεν, εἴ σ' ἀνελόμην,
ἀγροῦ ἐπ' ἐσχατιῆς—μισθὸς δέ τοι ἄρκιος ἔσται—
αἶμασιός τε λέγων καὶ δένδρεα μακρὰ φυτεύων;
ἐνθα κ' ἐγὼ σίτον μὲν ἐπηρτανὸν παρέχοιμι, 360
εἶματα δ' ἀμφιέσαιμι ποσὶν θ' ὑποδήματα δοίην.
ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ οὖν δὴ ἔργα κάκ' ἔμματος, οὐκ ἐβελήσεις
ἔργον ἐποιχεσθαι, ἀλλὰ πτώσσειν κατὰ δῆμον·
βούλει, ὄφρ' ἂν ἔχῃς βόσκειν σὴν γαστέρ' ἀναλτον."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
"Εὐρύμαχ', εἰ γὰρ νῶϊν ἔρις ἔργοιο γένοιτο 365
ῶρῃ ἐν εἰαρινῇ, ὅτε τ' ἤματα μακρὰ πέλονται,
ἐν ποίῃ, δρέπανον μὲν ἐγὼν εὐκαμπὲς ἔχοιμι,
καὶ δὲ σὺ τοῖον ἔχῃς, ἵνα πειρησαίμεθα ἔργου
νήστιες ἄχρι μάλα κνέφαος, ποίῃ δὲ παρείῃ. 370
εἰ δ' αὖ καὶ βόες εἰεν ἐλαυνέμεν, οἳ περ ἄριστοι,
αἰθῶνες, μεγάλοι, ἄμφω κεκορηότε ποίης,
ἥλικες, ἰσοφόροι, τῶν τε σθένος οὐκ ἀλαπαδρὸν."

¹ I interpret this difficult passage as meaning, "There is something divine about this stranger, a radiance shines from him." This thought is, however, straightway turned into

son of Laertes. So among them Eurymachus, son of Polybus, began to speak, jeering at Odysseus, and making mirth for his companions:

"Hear me, wooers of the glorious queen, that I may say what the heart in my breast bids me. Not without the will of the gods has this man come to the palace of Odysseus; in any case there is a glare of torches from him—from his head, for there is no hair on it, no, not a trace."¹

Therewith he called to Odysseus, sacker of cities: "Stranger, wouldest thou have a mind to serve for hire, if I should take thee into service on an outlying farm—thy pay shall be assured thee—gathering stones for walls, and planting tall trees? There would I provide thee with food the year through, and clothe thee with raiment and give thee sandals for thy feet. But since thou hast learned only deeds of evil, thou wilt not care to busy thyself with work, but art minded rather to go skulking through the land, that thou mayest have wherewith to feed thy insatiate belly."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Eurymachus, I would that we two might have a match in working in the season of spring, when the long days come, at mowing the grass, I with a curved scythe in my hands and thou with another like it, and that the grass might be in plenty that so we might test our work, fasting till late evening. Or I would again that there were oxen to drive—the best there are, tawny and large, both well fed with grass, of like age and like power to bear the yoke, tireless in strength—and that there

mockery, and the "radiancy" becomes but the gleam of the torches from the stranger's bald head.

τετράγυον δ' εἶη, εἵκοι δ' ὑπὸ βῶλος ἀρότρω·
 τῷ κέ μ' ἴδοις, εἰ ὦλκα διηνεκῆα προταμοίμην. 373
 εἰ δ' αὖ καὶ πόλεμόν ποθεν ὀρμήσεις Κρονίων
 σήμερον, αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ σάκος εἴη καὶ δύο δοῦρε
 καὶ κυνὴ πᾶγχαλκος, ἐπὶ κροτάφοις ἄραρυῖα,
 τῷ κέ μ' ἴδοις πρῶτοισιν ἐνὶ προμάχοισι μυχέντα,
 οὐδ' ἂν μοι τὴν γαστέρ' ὀνειδίζων ἀγορεύοις. 380
 ἀλλὰ μάλ' ὑβρίζεις, καὶ τοι νῦός ἐστιν ἀπηνή·
 καὶ πού τις δοκέεις μέγας ἔμμεναι ἡδὲ κραταιός,
 οἷνεκα πὰρ παύροισι καὶ οὐκ ἀγαθοῖσιν ὁμιλεῖς.
 εἰ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔλθοι καὶ ἴκοιτ' ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν,
 αἰψά κέ τοι τὰ θύρετρα, καὶ εὐρέα περ μάλ' ἐόντα, 385
 φεύγοντι στείνοιτο διέκ προθύροιο θύραζε."

"Ὡς ἔφατ', Εὐρύμαχος δ' ἐχολώσατο κηρόθι μᾶλλον,
 καὶ μιν ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

"Ἄ δειλ', ἢ τάχα τοι τελίῳ κακόν, οἷ' ἀγορεύεις
 θαρσαλέως πολλοῖσι μετ' ἀνδράσιν, οὐδέ τι θυμῷ 390
 ταρβεῖς· ἢ ῥά σε οἶνος ἔχει φρένας, ἢ νῦ τοι αἰεὶ
 τοιοῦτος νῦός ἐστιν· ὃ καὶ μεταμῶνια βάζεις.
 ἢ ἀλύεις, ὅτι Ἴρον ἐνέκησας τὸν ἀλήτην;"¹

"Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας σφέλας ἔλλαβεν αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 Ἀμφινόμου πρὸς γούνα καθέζετο Δουλιχιῆος, 395
 Εὐρύμαχον δεισας· ὃ δ' ἄρ' οἶνοχόον βάλε χεῖρα
 δεξιτερὴν· πρόχοος δὲ χαμαὶ βόμβησε πεσοῦσα,
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' οἰμῶξας πέσεν ὑπτίος ἐν κονίῃσι.
 μνηστῆρες δ' ὁμάδῃσαν ἀνὰ μέγαρα σκιδόεντα,
 ὦδε δέ τις εἶπεσκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον· 400

¹ Line 393 is omitted in many MSS.

were a field of four acres, and the soil should yield before the plough: then shouldest thou see me, whether or no I could cut a straight furrow to the end. Or I would again that this day the son of Cronos might bring war upon us from whence he would, and I had a shield and two spears and a helmet all of bronze, that fitted well my temples: then shouldest thou see me mingling amid the foremost fighters, and wouldest not prate, taunting me with this belly of mine. But right insolent art thou, and thy heart is cruel, and forsooth thou thinkest thyself to be some great man and mighty, because thou consortest with few men and weak. If but Odysseus might return, and come to his native land, soon would yonder doors, right wide though they are, prove all too narrow for thee in thy flight out through the doorway."

So he spoke, and Eurymachus waxed the more wroth at heart, and with an angry glance from beneath his brows spoke to him winged words:

"Wretch, presently will I work thee evil, that thou pratest thus, unabashed in the presence of many lords, and hast no fear at heart. Surely wine has mastered thy wits, or else thy mind is ever thus, that thou dost babble idly. Art thou beakle thyself because thou hast beaten that vagrant Irus?"

So saying, he seized a footstool, but Odysseus sat down at the knees of Amphinomus of Dulichium, in fear of Eurymachus. And so Eurymachus struck a cup-bearer on the right hand, and the wine-jug fell to the ground with a clang, and the bearer groaned, and fell backwards in the dust. Then the wooers broke into uproar throughout the shadowy halls, and thus would one man speak with a glance at his neighbour:

"Αἶθ' ὤφελλ' ὁ ξεῖνος ἀλώμενος ἄλλοθ' ὀλέσθαι
πρὶν ἐλθεῖν· τῷ κ' οὐ τι τόσον κέλαδον μετέθηκε.¹
νῦν δὲ περὶ πτωχῶν ἐριδαίνομεν, οὐδὲ τι δαιτὸς
ἐσθλῆς ἕσσεται ἥδος, ἐπεὶ τὰ χερεῖονα νικᾷ."

Τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειψ' ἱερῇ ἱς Τηλεμάχοιο 405
"Δαιμόνιοι, μαίνεσθε καὶ οὐκέτι κεύθετε θυμῷ
βρωτῶν οὐδὲ ποτῆρα· θεῶν νῦν τις ὑμ' ὀροθύνει.
ἀλλ' εὖ δαισάμενοι κατακέλετε οἶκαδ' ἰόντες,
ὅππότε θυμὸς ἀνωγε· διώκω δ' οὐ τίς ἐγώ γε."

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ὁδᾶξ ἐν χεῖλεσι φύντες
Τηλέμαχον θαύμαζον, ὃ θαρσαλέως ἀγόρευε. 411
τοῖσιν δ' Ἀμφινόμος ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπε
Νίσου· φαίδιμος υἱός, Ἀρητιάδαο ἀνακτός·²

"ὦ φίλοι, οὐκ ἂν δῆ τις ἐπὶ ῥηθέντι δικαίῳ
ἀντιβίοις ἐπέεσσι καθαπτόμενος χαλεπαίνοι· 415
μήτε τι τὸν ξεῖνον στυφελίζετε μήτε τίς ἄλλον
δμῶων, οἱ κατὰ δῶματ' Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο.
ἀλλ' ἄγετ', οἶνοχόος μὲν ἐπαρξάσθω δεπᾶεσσιν,
ὅφρα σπείσαντες κατακείομεν οἶκαδ' ἰόντες·
τὸν ξεῖνον δὲ ἔωμεν ἐνὶ μεγάροις Ὀδυσσῆος 420

Τηλεμάχῳ μελέμεν· τοῦ γὰρ φίλον ἵκετο δῶμα."

"Ὡς φάτο, τοῖσι δὲ πᾶσιν ἐαδότα μῦθον ἔειπε.
τοῖσιν δὲ κρητῆρα κεράσσατο Μούλιος ἦρως,
κῆρυξ Δουλιχειεύς· θεράπων δ' ἦν Ἀμφινόμοιο· 425
νόμῃσιν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν ἐπισταδόν· οἱ δὲ θεοῖσι
σπείσαντες μακάρεσσι πίον μελιηδέα οἶνον.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ σπείσαντ' ἐπίον θ' ὅσον ἤθελε θυμός,
βᾶν ῥ' ἱμεναι κείοντες ἐὰν πρὸς δῶμαθ' ἕκαστος.

¹ μετέθηκε Aristarchus: μετέειπε.

² Line 413 (= xvi. 303) is omitted in most MSS.

"Would that yon stranger had perished elsewhere on his wanderings or ever he came hither; then should he never have brought among us all this tumult. But now we are brawling about beggars, nor shall there be any joy in our rich feast, since worse things prevail."

Then among them spoke the strong and mighty Telemachus: "Strange sirs, ye are mad, and no longer hide that ye have eaten and drunk; some god surely is moving you. Nay, now that you have well feasted, go to your homes and take your rest, when your spirits bid you. Yet do I drive no man forth."

So he spoke, and they all bit their lips, and marvelled at Telemachus, that he spoke boldly. But Amphinomus spoke, and addressed them—he was son of the noble prince Nisus, son of Aretias:

"Friends, no man in answer to what has been fairly spoken would wax wrath and make reply with wrangling words. Abuse not any more this stranger nor any one of the slaves that are in the house of divine Odysseus. Nay, come, let the better pour drops for libation in the cups, that we may pour libations, and go home to take our rest. As for this stranger, let us leave him in the halls of Odysseus to be cared for by Telemachus; for to his house has he come."

So said he, and the words that he spoke were pleasing to all. Then a bowl was mixed for them by the lord Mullus, a herald from Dulichium, who was squire to Amphinomus. And he served out to all, coming up to each in turn; and they made libations to the blessed gods, and drank the honey-sweet wine. Then when they had made libations and had drunk to their heart's content, they went their way, each man to his own house, to take their rest.

Τ

Αὐτὰρ ὁ ἐν μεγάρῳ ὑπελείπετο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
μνηστήρεσσι φόνον σὺν Ἀθήνῃ μερμηρίζων·
αἶψα δὲ Τηλέμαχον ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Τηλέμαχε, χρὴ τεύχε' ἄρήϊα καθήμεν αἶσω
πάντα μάλ'· αὐτὰρ μνηστήρας μαλακοῖς ἐπέεσσι 6
παρφάσθαι, ὅτε κέν σε μεταλλῶσιν ποθέοντες·
‘Ἐκ καπνοῦ κατέθηκ', ἐπεὶ οὐκέτι τοῖσιν ἐρήκει
οἷά ποτε Τροίηνδε κιὼν κατέλειπεν Ὀδυσσεύς,
ἀλλὰ κατήκισται, ὅσσον πυρὸς ἵκετ' αὐτμή,
πρὸς δ' ἔτι καὶ τόδε μεῖζον ἐνὶ φρεσὶν ἔμβαλε δαίμων 10
μή πως οἰνωθέντες, ἔριν στήσαντες ἐν ὑμῖν,
ἄλλήλους τρώσιγτε καταισχύνῃτε τε δαῖτα
καὶ μνηστύν· αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐφέλκεται ἄνδρα σίδηρος.”

“Ὡς φάτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεκίβητο πατρί,
ἐκ δὲ καλεσσάμενος προσέφη τροφὸν Εὐρύκλειαν· 15

“Μαῖ', ἄγε δὴ μοι ἔρυξον ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γυναῖκας,
ὄφρα κεν ἐς θύλαμον καταθείομαι ἔντεα πατρὸς
καλά, τὰ μοι κατὰ οἶκον ἄκηδία καπνὸς ἡμέρδαι
πατρὸς ἀποιχομένοιο· ἐγὼ δ' ἔτι νήπιος ἦμ,
νῦν δ' ἐθέλω καταθέσθαι, ἵν' οὐ πυρὸς ἵξεται αὐτμή.” 20

BOOK XIX

So goodly Odysseus was left behind in the hall, planning with Athena's aid the slaying of the wooers, and he straightway spoke winged words to Telemachus:

"Telemachus, the weapons of war thou must needs lay away within one and all, and when the wooers miss them and question thee, thou must beguile them with gentle words, saying: 'Out of the smoke have I laid them, since they are no longer like those which of old Odysseus left behind him, when he went forth to Troy, but are all befouled, so far as the breath of fire has reached them. And furthermore this greater fear has a god put in my heart, lest haply, when heated with wine, you may set a quarrel afoot among you, and wound one another, and so bring shame on your feast and on your wooing. For of itself does the iron draw a man to it.'"

So he spoke, and Telemachus hearkened to his dear father, and calling forth the nurse Eurycleia, said to her:

"Nurse, come now, I bid thee, shut up the women in their rooms, while I lay away in the store-room the weapons of my father, the goodly weapons which all uncared-for the smoke bedims in the hall since my father went forth, and I was still a child. But now I am minded to lay them away, where the breath of the fire will not come upon them."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια·
 " Αἶ γὰρ δὴ ποτε, τέκνον, ἐπιφροσύνας ἀνέλοιо
 οἶκον κήδεσθαι καὶ κτήματα πάντα φυλάσσειν.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε, τίς τοι ἔπειτα μετοιχομένη φάος οἶσαι;
 ὁμῶς δ' οὐκ εἷας προβλωσκέμεν, αἷ κεν ἔφαινον." 25

Τῇσ δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἠΐδα·
 " Ξεῖνος ὁδ'· οὐ γὰρ ἀεργὸν ἀνέξομαι ὅς κεν ἐμῆς γε
 χοῖνικος ἀπτήται, καὶ τηλόθεν εἰληλουθώς."

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν, τῇ δ' ἄπτερος ἔπλετο μῦθος.
 κλήϊσεν δὲ θύρας μεγάρων εὐ ναιετάοντων. 30
 τῷ δ' ἄρ' ἀναΐξαντ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ φαίδιμος υἱὸς
 ἐσφόρεον κόρυθ' αἶς τε καὶ ἀσπίδας ὀμφαλοέσσας
 ἔγχεά τ' ὀξυέντα· πύρουθε δὲ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη,
 χρύσειον λύχον ἔχουσα, φάος περικαλλὲς ἐποίει
 δὴ τότε Τηλέμαχος προσεφώνειν ὃν πατέρ' αἶψα. 35

"ὦ πάτερ, ἡ μέγα θαῦμα τόδ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὁρῶμαι,
 ἔμπης μοι τοῖχοι μεγάρων καλάι τε μεσὸδμαι,
 εἰλάτιναί τε δοκοί, καὶ κίονες ὑψόσ' ἔχοντες
 φαίνοντ' ὀφθαλμαῖς ὥς εἰ πυρὸς αἶθομένοιο.
 ἡ μάλα τις θεὸς ἔνδον, οἱ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσι." 40

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 " Σῖγα καὶ κατὰ σὸν νόον ἴσχανε μῆδ' ἐρέεινε·
 αὕτη τοι δίκη ἐστὶ θεῶν, οἳ Ὀλυμπον ἔχουσιν.
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν κατάλεξαι, ἐγὼ δ' ὑπολείψομαι αὐτοῦ,
 ὄφρα κ' ἔτι ὁμῶς καὶ μητέρα σὴν ἐρεθίζω. 45
 ἡ δέ μ' ὀδυρομένη εἰρήσεται ἁμφλὲς ἕκαστα."

¹ The χῶνξ, = about a quart, was the daily ration of corn or meal for a slave.

Then the dear nurse Eurycleia answered him :
 " Aye, child, I would thou mightest ever take thought
 to care for the house and guard all its wealth. But
 come, who then shall fetch a light and bear it for
 thee, since thou wouldest not suffer the maids, who
 might have given light, to go before thee ?"

Then wise Telemachus answered her ; " This
 stranger here ; for I will suffer no man to be idle who
 touches my portion of meal,¹ even though he has
 come from afar."

So he spoke, but her word remained unwinged,
 and she locked the doors of the stately hall. Then
 the two sprang up, Odysseus and his glorious son,
 and set about bearing within the helmets and the
 bossy shields and the sharp-pointed spears ; and be-
 fore them Pallas Athene, bearing a golden lamp,
 made a most beauteous light. Then Telemachus
 suddenly spoke to his father, and said :

" Father, verily this is a great marvel that my eyes
 behold ; certainly the walls of the house and the fair
 beams² and cross-beams of fir and the pillars that
 reach on high, glow in my eyes as with the light of
 blazing fire. Surely some god is within, one of those
 who hold broad heaven."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and
 said : " Hush, check thy thought, and ask no question ;
 this, I tell thee, is the way of the gods that hold
 Olympus. But do thou go and take thy rest and
 I will remain behind here, that I may stir yet more
 the minds of the maids and of thy mother ; and she
 with weeping shall ask me of each thing separately."

¹ *prothymas* is an obscure word which in il. 424 (in the sing.) denotes the socket in which the mast of a ship is set. Aristarchus took it to mean here "the spaces between the columns" ; others "the spaces between the beams (panels)."

ὦς φάτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ διῆκ' ἀργάροιο βεβήκει
 κείων ἐς θάλαμον, δαΐδων ὑπο λαμπομενάων,
 ἐνθα πάρος κοιμᾶθ', ὅτε μιν γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἱκάνοι·
 ἐνθ' ἄρα καὶ τότε ἔλεκτο καὶ Ἴω διὰν ἔμμενεν. 50
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἐν μεγάρῳ ὑπελείπετο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 μνηστήρεσσι φόνον σὺν Ἀθήνῃ μερμηρίζων.

Ἡ δ' Ἴεν ἐκ θαλάμοιο περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
 Ἀρτέμιδι ἱκέλη ἤε χρυσῇ Ἀφροδίτῃ,
 τῇ παρὰ μὲν κλισίῃν πυρὶ κάτθεσαν, ἐνθ' ἄρ' ἐφίξε, 55
 δινωτὴν ἐλέφαντι καὶ ἀργύρῳ· ἦν ποτε τέκτων
 ποίησ' Ἰκμάλιος, καὶ ὑπὸ θρήνου πασὶν ἦκε
 προσφύε' ἐξ αὐτῆς, ὅθ' ἐπὶ μέγα βάλλετο κῶας.
 ἐνθα καθέζετ' ἔπειτα περίφρων Πηνελόπεια.
 ἦλθον δὲ δρυαὶ λευκώλενοι ἐκ μεγάροιο. 60
 αἱ δ' ἀπὸ μὲν σίτον πολὺν ᾔρεον ἠδὲ τραπέζας
 καὶ δέπα, εἶθεν ἄρ' ἄνδρες ὑπερμενέοντες ἔπινον·
 πῦρ δ' ἀπὸ λαμπτήρων χαμᾶδις βύλον, ἅλλα δ' ἐπ' αὐτῶν
 νήσαν ξύλα πολλὰ, φῶς ἔμεν ἠδὲ θέρεσθαι.

Ἡ δ' Ὀδυσῆ' ἐνέειπε Μελανθῶ δεύτερον αὐτίς· 65
 "Ξεῖν', ἐτι καὶ νῦν ἐνθάδ' ἀνιήσεις διὰ νύκτα
 δινεύων κατὰ οἶκον, ὅπικεύσεις δὲ γυναῖκας·
 ἀλλ' ἐξελθε θύραζε, τάλαν, καὶ δαιτὸς ὄνησο·
 ἢ τάχα καὶ δαλῶ βεβλημένος εἰσθα θύραζε." -

Τὴν δ' ἄρ' ὑπὸδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Δαιμονίη, τί μοι ᾧδ' ἐπέχεις κεκοτητότι θυμῷ; 71
 ἢ ὅτι δὴ ῥυπῶω,¹ κακὰ δὲ χροῖ εἴματα εἶμαι,

¹ ἢ ῥυτίς; οὐ λισίω.

So he spoke, and Telemachus went forth through the hall by the light of blazing torches to go to his chamber to lie down, where he had heretofore been wont to rest, when sweet sleep came upon him. There now too he lay down and waited for the bright Dawn. But goodly Odysseus was left behind in the hall, planning with Athene's aid the slaying of the wooers.

Then wise Penelope came forth from her chamber like unto Artemis or golden Aphrodite, and for her they set by the fire, where she was wont to sit, a chair inlaid with spirals of ivory and silver, which of old the craftsman Iemalius had made, and had set beneath it a foot-stool for the feet, that was part of the chair, and upon it a great fleece was wont to be laid. On this then wise Penelope sat down, and the white-armed maids came forth from the women's hall. These began to take away the abundant food, the tables, and the cups from which the lordly men had been drinking, and they cast the embers from the braziers on to the floor, and piled upon the braziers fresh logs in abundance, to give light and warmth.

But Melantho began again a second time to rate Odysseus, saying: "Stranger, wilt thou even now still be a plague to us through the night, roaming through the house, and wilt thou spy upon the women? Nay, get thee forth, thou wretch, and be content with thy supper, or straightway shalt thou even be smitten with a torch, and so go forth."

Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered her: "Good woman, why, pray, dost thou thus assail me with angry heart? Is it because I am foul and

πτωχεῖω δ' ἀνὰ δῆμον· ἀναγκαίη γὰρ ἐπείγῃ.

τοιοῦτοι πτωχοὶ καὶ ἀλήμονες ἄνδρες ἔασι.

καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ποτε οἶκον ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ἐνῆαιον

75

δλβιος ἀφνειὸν καὶ πολλὰκι δόσκον ἀλήτη,

τοῖφ ὁποῖος ἔοι καὶ ὅτεν κεχρημένος ἔλθοι·

ἦσαν δὲ δμῶες μίλα μυριοί, ἅλλα τε πολλὰ

οἷσιν τ' εὖ ζώουσι καὶ ἀφνείοι καλέονται,

ἀλλὰ Ζεὺς ἀλάπηξε Κρονίων· ἤθελε γάρ πον·

80

τῷ νῦν μήποτε καὶ σὺ, γύναι, ἐπὶ πᾶσαν ὀλέσσης

ἀγλαΐην, τῇ νῦν γε μετὰ δμοῖσι κέκασσαι·

μή πῶς τοι δόσποινα κοτεσσαμένη χαλεπήνῃ,

ἢ Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔλθῃ· ἔτι γὰρ καὶ ἐλπίδος αἶσα.

εἰ δ' ὁ μὲν ὥς ἀπόλωλε καὶ οὐκέτι νόστιμός ἐστιν,

85

ἀλλ' ἤδη παῖς τοῖος Ἀπόλλωνός γε ἔκῃτι,

Τηλέμαχος· τὸν δ' οὐ τις ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γυναικῶν

λήθει ἀτασθαλλοῦσ', ἐπεὶ οὐκέτι τηλέκος ἐστίν."

Ὡς φάτο, τοῦ δ' ἤκουσε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,

ἀμφίπολον δ' ἐνέειπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ἐνόμαζε·

90

" Πάντως, θαρσαλέη, κύον ἄδεις, οὐ τί με λήθεις

ἔρδουσα μέγα ἔργον, ὃ σὴ κεφαλῇ ἀναμύξεις·

πάντα γὰρ εὖ ᾔδησθ', ἐπεὶ ἐξ ἐμεῦ ἐκλυες αὐτῆς

ὥς τὸν ξεῖνον ἐμελλον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐμοῖσιν

ἀμφὶ πόσει εἶρεσθαι, ἐπεὶ πυκνῶς ἀκάχημαι."

95

Ἡ βὰ καὶ Εὐρυνόμην ταμίην πρὸς μῦθον εἶπεν·

" Εὐρυνόμη, φέρε δὴ δίφρον καὶ κῶας ἐπ' αὐτοῦ,

ὄφρα καθεζόμενος εἴπῃ ἔπος ἡδ' ἐπακούσῃ

ὃ ξεῖνος ἐμέθεν· ἐθέλω δέ μιν ἐξερέεσθαι."

wear mean raiment on my body, and beg through the land? Aye, for necessity compels me. Of such sort are beggars and vagabond folk. For I too once dwelt in a house of my own among men, a rich man in a wealthy house, and full often I gave gifts to a wanderer, whosoever he was and with whatsoever need he came. Slaves too I had past counting and all other things in abundance whereby men live well and are reputed wealthy. But Zeus, son of Cronos, brought all to naught; so, I ween, was his good pleasure. Wherefore, woman, beware lest thou too some day lose all the glory whereby thou now hast excellence among the handmaids; lest perchance thy mistress wax wroth and be angry with thee, or Odysseus come home; for there is yet room for hope. But if, even as it seems, he is dead, and is no more to return, yet now is his son by the favour of Apollo such as he was—even Telemachus. Him it escapes not if any of the women in the halls work wantonness; for he is no longer the child he was."

So he spoke, and wise Penelope heard him; and she rebuked the handmaid and spoke, and addressed her:

"Be sure, thou bold and shameless thing, that thy outrageous deed is in no wise hid from me, and with thine own head shalt thou wipe out its stain. Full well didst thou know, for thou hast heard it from my own lips, that I was minded to question the stranger in my halls concerning my husband; for I am sore distressed."

With this she spoke also to the housewife Eurynome, and said: "Eurynome, bring hither a chair and a fleece upon it, that the stranger may sit down and tell his tale, and listen to me; for I am fain to ask him of all things."

“Ὡς ἔφαθ’, ἥ δὲ μάλ’ ὀτραλέως κατέθηκε φέρουσα 100
 εἴφρον εὐξεστον καὶ ἐπ’ αὐτῷ κῶας ἔβαλλεν·
 ἐνθα καθέζετ’ ἔπειτα πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.
 τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἤρχε περίφρων Πηηλόπεια·

“Ξεῖνε, τὸ μὲν σε πρῶτον ἐγὼν εἰρήσομαι αὐτή·
 τίς πόθεν εἰς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις ἦδὲ τοκῆς;” 105

Τὴν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “ὦ γύναι, οὐκ ἄν τίς σε βροτῶν ἐπ’ ἀπείρονα γαῖαν
 νικέει· ἡ γάρ σευ κλέος οὐρανὸν εὐρύν ἰκάνει,
 ὥς τέ τευ ἡ βασιλῆος ἀμύμονος, δς τε θεουδῆς
 ἀνδράσιν ἐν πολλοῖσι καὶ ἰφθίμοισιν ἀνάσσων 110

εὐδικίας ἀνέχῃσι, φέρῃσι δὲ γαῖα μέλαινα
 πυροῦς καὶ κριθᾶς, βρίθῃσι δὲ δένδρεα καρπῷ,
 τίκτη δ’ ἔμπεδα μήλα, θύλασσα δὲ παρέχῃ ἰχθύς
 ἐξ εὐνγεσίης, ἀρετῶσι δὲ λαοὶ ὑπ’ αὐτοῦ.
 τῷ ἐμὲ νῦν τὰ μὲν ἄλλα μετᾴλλα σῶ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ, 115

μηδ’ ἐμὸν ἐξερέεινε γένος καὶ πατρίδα γαῖαν,
 μή μοι μᾶλλον θυμὸν ἐνιπλήσῃς ὀδυνῶν
 μνησαμένῳ· μάλα δ’ εἰμὶ πολύστονος· οὐδέ τί με χρεῖ
 οἴκῳ ἐν ἄλλοτρίῳ γοῶντά τε μυρόμενόν τε
 ἦσθαι, ἐπεὶ κῆκλιον πενθήμεναι ἄκριτον αἰεῖ· 120
 μή τίς μοι δρυῶν νεμεσήσεται, ἥδ’ οὐ γ’ αὐτῇ,
 φῆ δὲ δακρυπλώειν βεβαρητότα με φρένας οἴον·”

Τὸν δ’ ἡμείβετ’ ἔπειτα περίφρων Πηηλόπεια·
 “Ξεῖν’, ἡ τοι μὲν ἐμὴν ἀρετὴν εἰδὸς τε δέμας τε
 ὤλεσαν ἀθάνατοι, δτε Ἴλιον εἰσανέβαινον 125
 Ἀργεῖοι, μετὰ τοῖσι δ’ ἐμὸς πόσις ἦεν Ὀδυσσεύς.
 εἰ κεῖνός γ’ ἐλθὼν τὸν ἐμὸν βίον ἀμφιπολεύει,
 μεῖζον κε κλέος εἴη ἐμὸν καὶ κάλλιον οὕτως.

So she spoke, and Eurynome speedily brought a polished chair and set it in place, and on it cast a fleece. Then the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus sat down upon it, and the wise Penelope spoke first, and said:

"Stranger, this question will I myself ask thee first. Who art thou among men, and from whence? Where is thy city, and where thy parents?"

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Lady, no one of mortals upon the boundless earth could find fault with thee, for thy fame goes up to the broad heaven, as does the fame of some blameless king, who with the fear of the gods in his heart, is lord over many mighty men, upholding justice; and the black earth bears wheat and barley, and the trees are laden with fruit, the flocks bring forth young unceasingly, and the sea yields fish, all from his good leading; and the people prosper under him. Wherefore question me now in thy house of all things else, but ask not concerning my race and my native land, lest thou fill my heart the more with pains, as I think thereon; for I am a man of many sorrows. Moreover it is not fitting that I should sit weeping and wailing in another's house, for it is ill to grieve ever without ceasing. I would not that one of thy maidens or thine own self be vexed with me, and say that I swim in tears because my mind is heavy with wine."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Stranger, all excellence of mine, both of beauty and of form, the immortals destroyed on the day when the Argives embarked for Ilios, and with them went my husband, Odysseus. If he might but come, and watch over this life of mine, greater would be my fame and fairer.

νῦν δ' ἄχομαι· τόσα γάρ μοι ἐπέσσευεν κακὰ δαίμων.
 ὅσοι γάρ νήσοισιν ἐπικρατέουσιν ἄριστοι, 130
 Δουλιχίῳ τε Σάμῃ τε καὶ ὑλήεντι Ζακύνθῳ,
 οἳ τ' αὐτὴν Ἰθάκην εὐδείλεον ἀμφινέμονται,
 οἳ μ' ἄεκαζομένην μνῶνται, τρύχουσι δὲ οἶκον.¹
 τῷ οὔτε ξείνων ἐμπάζομοι οὔθ' ἱκέτῶν
 οὔτε τι κηρύκων, οἳ δημοεργοὶ ἔασιν· 135

ἀλλ' Ὀδυσῇ ποθέουσα φίλον κατατήκομαι ἦτορ.
 οἳ δὲ γάμον σπεύδουσιν ἐγὼ δὲ δόλους τολυπεύω.
 φᾶρος μὲν μοι πρῶτον ἐνέπνευσε φρεσὶ δαίμων,
 στήσαμένη μέγαν ἰστόν, ἐν μεγάροισιν ὑφαίνειν,
 λεπτόν καὶ περίμετρον· ἄφαρ δ' αὐτοῖς μετέειπον 140
 "·Κοῦροι, ἐμοὶ μνηστήρος, ἐπεὶ θάνε διὸς Ὀδυσ-
 σεύς,

μῖμετ' ἐπειγόμενοι τὸν ἐμὸν γάμον, εἰς δ' κε φᾶρος
 ἐκτελέσω—μή μοι μεταμῶνια νήματ' ὀληται—
 Λαέρτη ἥρωϊ ταφῆϊον, εἰς ὅτε κέν μιν
 μοῖρ' ὅλοη καθέλῃσι ταιηλεγέος θανύτοιο· 145
 μή τίς μοι κατὰ δῆμον Ἀχαιιάδων νειμεσῇσθ,
 αἶ κεν ἄτερ σπείρου κῆται πολλὰ κτεατίσσας·

"·Ὡς ἐφάμην, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπείθειτο θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ.
 ἔνθα καὶ ἡματιῇ μὲν ὑφαίνεσκον μέγαν ἰστόν,
 νύκτας δ' ἀλλύεσκον, ἐπεὶ δαΐδας παραβείμην. 150
 ὥς τρίτες μὲν ἔληθον ἐγὼ καὶ ἔπειθον Ἀχαιοὺς·
 ἀλλ' ὅτε τέτρατον ἦλθεν ἔτος καὶ ἐπὶ ἡλυθον ὥραι,
 μηνῶν φθινόντων, περὶ δ' ἡματα πόλλ' ἐτελέσθη,²
 καὶ τότε δὴ με διὰ δμῶας, κύνας οὐκ ἀλεγούσας,
 εἶλον ἐπελθόντες καὶ ὁμόκλησαν ἐπέεσσιν. 155
 ὥς τὸ μὲν ἐξετέλεσσα, καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλουσ', ὑπ' ἀνάγκης·

¹ Lines 130-3 (cf. l. 245-6 and xvi. 122-3) were rejected by Aristarchus.

² Line 153 (= xxiv. 143; cf. x. 470) is omitted in many MSS.

But now I am in sorrow, so many woes has some god brought upon me. For all the princes who hold sway over the islands—Dulichium and Same and wooded Zacynthus—and those who dwell around in clear-seen Ithaca itself, all these woo me against my will, and lay waste my house. Wherefore I pay no heed to strangers or to suppliants or in any wise to heralds, whose trade is a public one; but in longing for Odysseus I waste my heart away. So these men urge on my marriage, and I wind a skein of wiles. First some god breathed the thought in my heart to set up a great web in my halls and fall to weaving a robe—fine of thread was the web and very wide; and I straightway spoke among them:

“Young men, my wooers, since goodly Odysseus is dead, be patient, though eager for my marriage, until I finish this robe—I would not that my spinning should come to naught—a shroud for the lord Laertes against the time when the fell fate of grievous death shall strike him down; lest any one of the Achaean women in the land should be wroth with me, if he were to lie without a shroud, who had won great possessions.”

“So I spoke, and their proud hearts consented. Then day by day I would weave at the great web, but by night would unravel it, when I had let place torches by me. Thus for three years I kept the Achaeans from knowing, and beguiled them; but when the fourth year came, as the seasons rolled on, as the months waned, and the many days were brought in their course, then verily by the help of my maidens, shameless creatures and reckless, they came upon me and caught me, and upbraided me loudly. So I finished the web against my will perforce. And now

νῦν δ' οὐτ' ἐκφυγέειν δύναμαι γάμον οὔτε τιμ' ἄλλην
 μήτιν ἔθ' εὐρίσκω· μῦθα δ' ὀτρύνουσι τοκήες
 γήμασθ', ἄσχαλάς δὲ πάϊς βίοτον κατεδόντων,
 γιγνώσκων ἤδη γὰρ ἀνὴρ οἷός τε μάλιστα 160
 οἴκου κηδεσθαι, τῷ τε Ζεὺς κῦδος ὀπάξει.
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς μοι εἶπὲς τὸν γένος, ὀππόθεν ἐσσί·
 οὐ γὰρ ἀπὸ δρυὸς ἐσσι παλαιφάτου οὔδ' ἀπὸ πέτρης."

Τὴν δ' ὑπαμβιβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γυναῖα αἰδοίη Λαερτιάδεω Ὀδυσῆος, 165
 οὐκέτ' ἀπολλήξεις τὸν ἐμὸν γόνον ἑξερέουσα;
 ἀλλ' ἐκ τοι ἐρέω· ἡ μὲν μ' ἀχέεσσί γε δώσεις
 πλείοσιν ἢ ἐχομαι· ἡ γὰρ δίκη, ὀππότε πάτρης
 ἦς ἀπέρσιν ἀνὴρ τόσσον χρόνον ὅσσον ἐγὼ νῦν,
 πολλὰ βροτῶν ἐπὶ ἄστ' ἁλώμενος, ἄλγεα πάσχων 170
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς ἐρέω ὃ μ' ἀνείρσαι ἠδὲ μεταλλάς.
 Κρήτη τις γὰρ ἔστι, μέσφ' ἐνὶ οἴνοπι πόντῳ,
 καλὴ καὶ πίερα, περίρρυτος· ἐν δ' ἀνθρώποι
 πολλοί, ἀπειρέσιοι, καὶ ἐννήκοστα πόλεις.
 ἄλλη δ' ἄλλων γλῶσσα μεμυγμένη· ἐν μὲν Ἀχαιοί, 175
 ἐν δ' Ἰτεόκριτες μεγαλήτορες, ἐν δὲ Κύδωνες,
 Δωριεὺς τε τρεχάϊκες διότ' τε Πελασγοί.
 τῇσι δ' ἐνὶ Κνωσός, μεγάλῃ πόλεις, ἐνθα τε Μίνως
 ἐννέωρος βασίλευε Διὸς μεγάλου ἑαριστής,
 πατὴρ ἐμοῖο πατὴρ, μεγαθύμου Δευκαλίωνος 180
 Δευκαλίων δ' ἐμὲ τίκτε καὶ Ἰδομενῆα ἀνακτα·
 ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐν νῆσσι κορωνίσιν Ἴλιον εἶσω
 ὦχεθ' ἄμ' Ἀτρεΐδῃσιν, ἐμοὶ δ' ὄνομα κλυτὸν Λίθων,

¹ The phrase appears to be a quotation from older folk-poetry. The meaning here is: "You have not a merely casual origin, as though you were sprung from an oak or a stone; you have human ancestors; tell me of them." The phrase recurs in *Il.* xxii. 126; Hesiod, *Theog.* 35; and in *Plato*, *Apol.* 31 n, and *Repub.* 544 n.

I can neither escape the marriage nor devise any counsel more, and my parents are pressing me to marry, and my son frets, while these men devour his livelihood, as he takes note of it all; for by now he is a man, and fully able to care for a household to which Zeus grants honour. Yet even so tell me of thy stock from whence thou art; for thou art not sprung from an oak of ancient story, or from a stone."¹

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Honoured wife of Odysseus, son of Laertes, wilt thou never cease to ask me of my lineage? Well, I will tell thee; though verily thou wilt give me over to pains yet more than those by which I am now held in thrall; for so it ever is, when a man has been far from his country as long as I have now, wandering through the many cities of men in sore distress. Yet even so will I tell thee what thou dost ask and enquire. There is a land called Crete, in the midst of the wine-dark sea, a fair, rich land, begirt with water, and therein are many men, past counting, and ninety cities. They have not all the same speech, but their tongues are mixed. There dwell Achæans, there great-hearted native Cretans, there Cydonians, and Dorians of waving plumes, and goodly Pelasgians. Among their cities is the great city Cnossus, where Minos reigned when nine years old,² he that held converse with great Zeus, and was father of my father, great-hearted Deucalion. Now Deucalion begat me and prince Idomeneus. Idomeneus had gone forth in his beaked ships to Ilios with the sons of Atreus; but

¹ Some render, less strictly, "for nine years" or "through periods of nine years"; others, taking *δωδε* as a round number, "when he was come to full maturity." See the note on x. 19.

ὀπλοτέρος γενεῇ· ὁ δ' ἄρα πρότερος καὶ ἰσχυρότερος.
 ἐνθ' Ὀδυσῆα ἐγὼν ἰδόμεν καὶ ξείνια δῶκα.
 καὶ γὰρ τὸν Κρήτηνδε κατήγαγεν ἰς ἀνέμοιο,
 ἰέμενον Τροίηνδε παραπλήγξασα Μαλειῶν
 στήσε δ' ἐν Ἀμφισῶ, ὅθι τε σπέος Εἰλειθυίης,
 ἐν λιμέσιν χαλεποῖσι, μόγις δ' ὑπάλυξεν ἀέλλας.
 αὐτίκα δ' Ἰδομενεῖα μετάλλα ἄστυδ' ἀνελθὼν
 ξείνον γάρ οἱ ἐφασκε φίλον τ' ἔμεν αἰδοῖόν τε.
 τῷ δ' ἤδη δεκάτῃ ἢ ἐνδεκάτῃ πέλεν ἡώς
 οἰχομένῳ σὺν νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν Ἴλιον εἴσω.
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ πρὸς δῶματ' ἄγων ἐὺ ἐξείνισσα,
 ἐνδυκέως φίλῳ, πολλῶν κατὰ οἶκον ἐόντων
 καὶ οἱ τοῖς ἄλλοις ἐτάροις, οἳ δ' αὖτ' ἐποντο,
 δημόθεν ἄλφιστα δῶκα καὶ αἶθοπα οἶνον ἀγείρας
 καὶ βοῦς ἱρεύσασθαι, ἵνα πλησάιτο θυμόν.
 ἐνθα δυνάδεκα μὲν μένον ἤματα δίοι Ἀχαιοί·
 εἴλει γὰρ βορέης ἄνεμος μέγας οὐδ' ἐπὶ γαίῃ
 εἶα ἴστασθαι, χαλεπὸς δέ τις ὥρορε δαίμων.
 τῇ τρισκαιδεκάτῃ δ' ἄνεμος πέσε, τοὶ δ' ἀνύγοντο."

Ἰσχε ψεῦδεα πολλὰ λέγων ἐτύμοισιν ὁμοῖα·
 τῆς δ' ἄρ' ἀκουούσης βέε δάκρυα, τήκετο δὲ χρώς·
 ὥς δὲ χιῶν κατατήκετ' ἐν ἀκροπόλοισιν ὄρεσιν,
 ἦν τ' Εὐρώς κατέτηξεν, ἐπὶν Ζεφύρος καταχεύῃ
 τηκομένης δ' ἄρα τῆς ποταμοὶ πλήθουσι ῥέοντες·
 ὥς τῆς τήκετο καλὰ παρήϊα δάκρυ χεοῦσης,
 κλαιούσης ἐὼν ἄνδρα παρήμενον. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 θυμῷ μὲν γοῶσσαν ἐὼν ἐλέαιρε γυναῖκα,

my famous name is Action; I was the younger by birth, while he was the elder and the better man. There it was that I saw Odysseus and gave him gifts of entertainment; for the force of the wind had brought him too to Crete, as he was making for the land of Troy, and drove him out of his course past Malea. So he anchored his ships at Amnisus, where is the cave of Ellithylla, in a difficult harbour, and hardly did he escape the storm. Then straightway he went up to the city and asked for Idomeneus; for he declared that he was his friend, beloved and honoured. But it was now the tenth or the eleventh dawn since Idomeneus had gone in his beaked ships to Illos. So I took him to the house, and gave him entertainment with kindly welcome of the rich store that was in the house, and to the rest of his comrades who followed with him I gathered and gave out of the public store barley meal and flaming wine and bulls for sacrifice, that their hearts might be satisfied. There for twelve days the godally Achaeans tarried, for the strong North Wind penned them there, and would not suffer them to stand upon their feet on the land, for some angry god had roused it. But on the thirteenth day the wind fell and they put to sea."

He spoke, and made the many falsehoods of his tale seem like the truth,¹ and as she listened her tears flowed and her face melted as the snow melts on the lofty mountains, the snow which the East Wind thaws when the West Wind has strewn it, and as it melts the streams of the rivers flow full; so her fair cheeks melted as she wept and mourned for her husband, who even then was sitting by her side. And Odysseus in his heart had pity for his

¹ Many take *sexe* to mean merely "said" or "uttered," not "made like," cf. xxii. 61.

ὀφθαλμοὶ δ' ὥς εἰ κέρα ἴστασαν ἢ σίδηρος
 ἀτρέμας ἐν βλεφάροισι· δόλφ δ' ὃ γε δάκρυα κεύθην.
 ἢ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τάρφθη πολυδακρύτοιο γόοιο,
 ἐξαυτὶς μιν ἔπεσσιν ἀμειβομένη προσέειπε·

"Νῦν μὲν δὴ σευ, ξεινέ γ', ὄλω πειρήσεσθαι, 215
 εἰ ἔτεόν δι' κεῖθι σὺν ἀντιθέοις ἐτύροισι
 ξείνισας ἐν μεγάροισιν ἐμὸν πόσιν, ὥς ἀγορεύεις.
 εἰπέ μοι ὅπποτ' ἄσσω περὶ χροῖ εἴματα ἴστο,
 αὐτὸς θ' ὅλος ἔην, καὶ ἐταίρους, οἳ οἱ ἔποντο."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γύναι, ἡργαλέον τύσσω χρόνον ἀμφὶς ἔοντα 221
 εἰπέμεν· ἡδὴ γάρ οἱ ἑικοστὸν ἔτος ἔστιν
 ἔξ οὗ κεῖθεν ἔβη καὶ ἐμῆς ἀπεκλήλυθε πᾶτρός·
 αὐτὰρ τοι ἔρέω ὥς μοι ἐνδάλλεται ἦτορ.
 χλαῖναν πορφυρέην οὐλήν ἔχε δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς, 225
 διπλῆν· αὐτὰρ οἱ περόνη χρυσοῖο τέτυκτο
 αὐλοῖσιν διδύμοισι· πύροιθε δὲ δαίδαλον ἦεν
 ἐν πρῶτοισι πόδεσσι κύων ἔχε ποικίλον ἑλλόν,
 ἡσπαίροντα λάων· τὸ δὲ θαυμνίζεσκον ἅπαντες,
 ὥς οἱ χρύσειοι ἔοντες ὁ μὲν λίε νεβρὸν ἀπάγχων, 230
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἐκφυγέειν μεμᾶως ἡσπαιρε πόδεσσι.
 τὸν δὲ χιτῶν' ἐνόησα περὶ χροῖ σιγαλόεντα,
 οἷόν τε κρομύοιο λοπὸν κατὰ ἰσχαλίοιο·
 τὼς μὲν ἔην μαλακός, λαμπρὸς δ' ἦν ἥελιος ὥς·
 ἢ μὲν πολλὰ γ' αὐτὸν ἐθηήσαντο γυναῖκες, 235
 ἄλλο δὲ τοι ἔρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·

¹ With Anon. and Monro I have given the verb a meaning which seems demanded by the context. An alternative view

weeping wife, but his eyes stood fixed between his lids as though they were horn or iron, and with guile he hid his tears. But she, when she had had her fill of tearful wailing, again answered him and spoke, saying:

"Now verily, stranger, am I minded to put thee to the test, whether or no thou didst in very truth entertain there in thy halls my husband with his godlike comrades, even as thou sayest. Tell me what manner of raiment he wore about his body, and what manner of man he was himself; and tell me of the comrades who followed him."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Lady, hard is it for one that has been so long afar to tell thee this, for it is now the twentieth year since he went thence and departed from my country. But I will tell thee as my mind pictures him. A fleecy cloak of purple did goodly Odysseus wear, a cloak of double fold, but the brooch upon it was fashioned of gold with double clasps, and on the front it was curiously wrought: a hound held in his fore paws a dappled fawn, and pinned it¹ in his jaws as it writhed. And at this all men marvelled, how, though they were of gold, the hound was pinning the fawn and strangling it, and the fawn was writhing with its feet and striving to flee. And I noted the tunic about his body, all shining as is the sheen upon the skin of a dried onion, so soft it was; and it glistened like the sun. Verily many women gazed at him in wonder. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to heart. I know not whether

in that it means "gazed at." The scholiast gives three meanings, ἀνέλασεν, ἐλάνω, and ἐλάω, attributed respectively to Aristarchus, Crates, and "others."

οὐκ οἶδ' ἢ τάδε ἔστο περὶ χροὶ οἴκοθ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
 ἢ τις ἑταίρων δώκε θεῆς ἐπὶ νηὸς ἰόντι,
 ἢ τίς που καὶ ξεῖνος, ἐπεὶ πολλοῖσιν Ὀδυσσεύς
 ἔσκε φίλος· παῦροι γὰρ Ἀχαιῶν ἦσαν ὁμοῖοι. 240
 καὶ οἱ ἐγὼ χάλκειον ἄορ καὶ δίπλακα δῶκα
 καλὴν πορφυρέην καὶ τερμιόεντα χιτῶνα,
 αἰδοίως δ' ἀπέπεμπον ἔυσσέλμου ἐπὶ νηὸς.
 καὶ μὲν οἱ κῆρυξ ὀλίγον προγενέστερος αὐτοῦ
 εἶπετο· καὶ τὸν τοι μυθήσομαι, οἷος ἔην περ. 245
 γυρὸς ἐν ὤμοισιν, μελανόχρους, οὐλοκάρηνος,
 Εὐρυβάτης δ' ὄνομ' ἔσκε· τίεν δέ μιν ἑξοχὸν ἄλλων
 ὦν ἑτάρων Ὀδυσσεύς, ὅτι οἱ φρεσὶν ἄρτια ἦδη."

"Ὡς φάτο, τῇ δ' ἔτι μᾶλλον ὑφ' ἱμερον ὥρσε γόοιο,
 σήματ' ἀναγνούσῃ τί οἱ ἔμπεδα πέφραδ' Ὀδυσσεύς. 250
 ἢ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τάρφθη πολυδακρύτοιο γόοιο,
 καὶ τότε μιν μύθοισιν ἀμειβομένη προσέειπε·

"Νῦν μὲν δὴ μοι, ξεῖνε, πῦρος περ ἔων ἔλκεϊνός,
 ἐν μεγάροισιν ἐμοῖσι φίλος τ' ἔσῃ αἰδοῖός τε·
 αὐτὴ γὰρ τῷδε εἶματ' ἐγὼ πόρον, οἱ' ἀγορεύεις, 255
 πτύξας' ἱε θαλάμον, περόνῃν τ' ἐπίθηκα φαεινὴν
 κείνῳ ἀγαλμ' ἔμεναι· τὸν δ' οὐχ ὑποδέχομαι αὐτὶς
 οἶκαδε νοστήσαντα φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδα γυῖαν.
 τῷ ῥα κακῇ αἴσῃ κοίλῃς ἐπὶ νηὸς Ὀδυσσεύς
 ᾗχετ' ἐποψόμενος Κακοῖλιον οὐκ ὀνομοστήν." 260

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γύναι αἰδοίῃ Λαερτιάδεω Ὀδυσῆος,
 μηκέτι νῦν χρὸς καλὸν ἐναίρεο, μηδὲ τι θυμὸν
 τῆκε, πόσιν γοῶσα· νεμεσσῶμαί γε μὲν οὐδέν·

Odysseus was thus clothed at home, or whether one of his comrades gave him the raiment when he went on board the swift ship, or haply even some stranger, since to many men was Odysseus dear, for few of the Achæans were his peers. I, too, gave him a sword of bronze, and a fair purple cloak of double fold, and a fringed tunic, and with all honour sent him forth on his benched ship. Furthermore, a herald attended him, a little older than he, and I will tell thee of him too, what manner of man he was. He was round-shouldered, dark of skin, and curly-haired, and his name was Eurylates; and Odysseus honoured him above his other comrades, because he was like-minded with himself."

So he spoke, and in her heart aroused yet more the desire of weeping, as she recognized the sure tokens that Odysseus told her. But she, when she had had her fill of tearful wailing, made answer and said to him:

"Now verily, stranger, though before thou wast pitied, shalt thou be dear and honoured in my halls, for it was I that gave him this raiment, since thou describest it thus, and folded it, and brought it forth from the store-room, and added thereto the shining bronch to be a thing of joy to him. But my husband I shall never welcome back, returning home to his dear native land. Wherefore it was with an evil fate that Odysseus went forth in the hollow ship to see evil Ilios, that should never be named."

Then Odysseus of many wives answered her, and said: "Honoured wife of Odysseus, son of Laertes, mar not now thy fair face any more, nor waste thy heart at all in weeping for thy husband. I count it indeed no blame in thee; for any woman weeps

καὶ γὰρ τίς τ' ἄλλοιον ὀδύρεται ἀνδρ' ὀλέσσα
 κουρίδιον, τῷ τέκνα τέκῃ φιλότῃτι μιγείσα,
 ἢ Ὀδυσῆ', ὃν φασὶ θεοῖς ἐναλγῆκιον εἶναι.
 ἀλλὰ γόου μὲν παῦσαι, ἐμεῖο δὲ σύνθεο μῦθον·
 νημερτέως γάρ τοι μυθήσσομαι οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω
 ὡς ἤδη Ὀδυσῆος ἐγὼ περὶ νόστου ἄκουσα
 ἀγχοῦ, θεσπρωτῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐν πίοισι δῆμῳ,
 ζωοῦ· αὐτὰρ ἄγει κειμήλια πολλὰ καὶ ἐσθλὰ
 αἰτίζων ἀνὰ δῆμον. ἀτὰρ ἐρίηρας ἐταῖρους
 ὤλεσε καὶ νῆα γλαφυρὴν ἐνὶ οἴνοπι πόντῳ,
 θρινακίης ἀπο νήσου ἰών· ὀδύσαντο γὰρ αὐτῷ
 Ζεὺς τε καὶ Ἥλιος· τοῦ γὰρ βόας ἔκταν ἐταῖροι.
 οἱ μὲν πάντες ὄλοντο πολυκλύστῳ ἐνὶ πόντῳ,¹
 τὸν δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ τρόπιος ποδὸς ἔκβαλε κύμ' ἐπὶ χέρσου,
 Φαιήκων ἐς γαῖαν, οἳ ἀγχίθεοι γεγάασιν,
 οἳ δὲ μιν περὶ κῆρι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσαντο
 καὶ οἳ πολλὰ δόσαν πέμπειν τέ μιν ἤθελον αὐτοῖ·
 οἴκαδ' ἀπήμαντον, καὶ κεν πάλας ἐνθάδ' Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ἦεν· ἀλλ' ἄρα οἳ τό γε κέρδιον εἶσατο θυμῷ,
 χρήματ' ἀγυρτάζειν πολλὰν ἐπὶ γαῖαν ἰόντι·
 ὡς περὶ κέρδεα πολλὰ καταθυγρῶν ἀνθρώπων
 οἶδ' Ὀδυσεύς, οὐδ' ἂν τις ἐρίσσειε βροτὸς ἄλλος.
 ὡς μοι θεσπρωτῶν βασιλεὺς μυθήσατο Φεῖδων·
 ὦμνε δὲ πρὸς ἔμ' αὐτόν, ἵπποσπένδων ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 νῆα κατειρύσθαι καὶ ἐπαρτέας ἔμμεν ἐταῖρους,
 οἳ δὲ μιν πέμψουσι φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν.
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ πρὶν ἀπέπεμψε· τύχῃσε γὰρ ἐρχομένη νηὶς
 ἀνδρῶν θεσπρωτῶν ἐς Δουλίχιον πολύπυρον.²
 καὶ μοι κτήματ' ἔδειξεν, ὅσα ξυναγείρατ' Ὀδυσεεὺς·
 καὶ νῦ κεν ἐς δεκάτην γενεὴν ἕτερόν γ' ἔτι βόσκοι,

¹ Lines 275-7 are omitted in some MSS.

² Lines 291-2 (= xiv. 334-6) are omitted in some MSS.

when she has lost her wedded husband, to whom she has borne children in her love, though he were far other than Odysseus, who, they say, is like unto the gods. Yet do thou cease from weeping, and hearken to my words; for I will tell thee with sure truth, and will hide nothing, how but lately I heard of the return of Odysseus, that he is near at hand in the rich land of the Thesprotians, and yet alive, and he is bringing with him many rich treasures, as he begs through the land. But he lost his trusty comrades and his hollow ship on the wine-dark sea, as he journeyed from the Isle Thrinacia; for Zeus and Helios waxed wroth against him because his comrades had slain the kine of Helios. So they all perished in the surging sea, but he on the keel of his ship was cast forth by the wave on the shore, on the land of the Phaeacians, who are near of kin to the gods. These heartily showed him all honour, as if he were a god, and gave him many gifts, and were fain themselves to send him home unscathed. Yea, and Odysseus would long since have been here, only it seemed to his mind more profitable to gather wealth by roaming over the wide earth; so truly does Odysseus beyond all mortal men know many gainful ways, nor could any mortal beside vie with him. Thus Phéidon, king of the Thesprotians, told me the tale. Moreover he swore in my own presence, as he poured libations in his halls, that the ship was launched and the men ready who were to convey him to his dear native land. But me he sent forth first, for a ship of the Thesprotians chanced to be setting out for Dulichium, rich in wheat. And he showed me all the treasure that Odysseus had gathered; verily unto the tenth generation would it feed his children

δσσα αἶ ἐν μεγάρῳ κειμήλια κείτο ἀνακτος.
τόν δ' ἐς Δωδώνην φέτο βήμεναι, ὅφρα θεοῖο
ἐκ δρυὸς ὑφικόμειο Διὸς βουλήν ἐπακούσαι,
ὅπως βοστήσειε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν
ἦδη δὴν ἀπέων, ἣ ἰμφιδόν ἦε κρυφιδόν.

“Ὡς ὁ μὲν οὕτως ἐστὶ σόος καὶ ἐλεύσεται ἦδη
ἄγχι μάλ', οὐδ' ἔτι τῆλε φίλων καὶ πατρίδος αἰῆς
δηρὸν ἀπεσσεῖται· ἐμπης δέ τοι ὄρκια δώσω.
ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς πρῶτα, θεῶν ὑπατος καὶ ἄριστος,
ἴστίη τ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀμύμονος, ἦν ἰφικύνω·
ἦ μὲν τοι τάδε πάντα τελεῖται ὡς ἀγορεύω.
τοῦδ' αὐτοῦ λυκύβαντος ἐλεύσεται ἐνθάδ' Ὀδυσσεύς,
τοῦ μὲν φθίνοντος μηνός, τοῦ δ' ἵσταμένοιο.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
“ Αἶ γὰρ τοῦτο, ξεῖνε, ἔπος τετελεσμένον εἶη·
τῷ κε τύχα γνώης φιλότῳτά τε πολλὰ τε δῶρα
ἔξ ἐμεῦ, ὡς ἂν τίς σε συγαντόμενος μακαρίζοι.
ἀλλὰ μοι ὦδ' ἰνὰ θυμὸν ἔεται, ὡς ἔσεται περ·
οὗτ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐτι οἶκον ἐλεύσεται, οὔτε σύ πομπῆς
τεύξῃ, ἐπεὶ οὐ τοῖσι σημάτωνρές εἰσ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
οἷος Ὀδυσσεὺς ἔσκε μετ' ἀνδράσι, εἴ ποτ' ἔην γε,
ξείνους αἰδοῖους ἀποπεμπέμεν ἠδὲ δέχεσθαι.
ἀλλὰ μιν, ἀμφίπολοι, ἀπονίψατε, κάτθετε δ' εὐνήν,
δέμνια καὶ χλαῖνας καὶ ῥήγεια σιγαλόεντα,
ὥς κ' εὐ θαλπίδων χρυσόθρονον Ἥῳ ἴκηται.
ἠῶθεν δὲ μάλ' ἠρι λοέσσαι τε χρῖσάι τε,
ὥς κ' ἐνδον παρὰ Τηλεμύχῳ δειπνοιο μίδηται
ἡμενος ἐν μεγάρῳ τῷ δ' ἁλγίον ὅς κεν ἐκείνων
τοῦτον ἀνιάξῃ θυμοφθόρος οὐδέ τι ἔργον

after him, so great was the wealth that lay stored for him in the halls of the king. But Odysseus, he said, had gone to Dodona to hear the will of Zeus from the high-crested oak of the god, even how he might return to his dear native land after so long an absence, whether openly or in secret.

"Thus, as I tell thee, he is safe, and will presently come; he is very near, and not long will he now be far from his friends and his native land. Yet will I give thee an oath. Be Zeus my witness first, highest and best of gods, and the hearth of noble Odysseus to which I am come, that verily all these things shall be brought to pass even as I tell thee. In the course of this self-same day shall Odysseus come hither, as the old moon wanes and the new appears."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Ah, stranger, I would that this word of thine might be fulfilled. Then shouldst thou straightway know of kindness and many a gift from me, so that one who met thee would call thee blessed. Yet in my heart I forebode it thus, even as it shall be. Neither shall Odysseus any more come home, nor shalt thou obtain a convoy hence, since there are not now in the house such masters as Odysseus was among men—as sure as ever such a man there was—to send reverend strangers on their way, and to welcome them. But still, my maidens, wash the stranger's feet and prepare his bed—bedstead and cloaks and bright coverlets—that in warmth and comfort he may come to the golden-throned Dawn. And right early in the morning bathe him and anoint him, that in our house at the side of Telemachus he may bethink him of food as he sits in the hall. And worse shall it be for any man among them who vexes this man's soul with

ἐνθάδ' ἔτι πρήξει, μάλα περ κεχολωμένος αἰνῶς.
 πῶς γὰρ ἐμεῦ σύ, ξεῖνε, δαήσεαι εἴ τι γυναικῶν 325
 ἀλλᾶων περίειμι νόον καὶ ἐπίφρονα¹ μῆτιν,
 εἴ κεν αὔσταλέος, κακὰ εἰμένος ἐν μεγάροισιν
 δαινύη; ἄνθρωποι δὲ μυνυθάδιοι τελέθουσιν.
 δς μὲν ὑπηγὴς αὐτὸς ἔη καὶ ὑπηγέα εἰδῇ,
 τῷ δὲ καταρῶνται πάντες βροτοὶ ἄλγε' ὀπίσσω 330
 ζῶν, ἀτὰρ τεθνεῶτί γ' ἐφεψιδῶνται ἅπαντες.
 δς δ' ἂν ἀμύμων αὐτὸς ἔη καὶ ἀμύμονα εἰδῇ,
 τοῦ μὲν τε κλέος εὐρὺ διὰ ξεῖνοι φορέουσι
 πάντας ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους, πολλοὶ τὲ μὲν ἐσθλὸν ξείπον."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσ-
 σεύς· 335

"ὦ γύναι αἰδοίη Λαερτιάδεω Ὀδυσῆος,
 ἢ τοι ἐμοὶ χλαῖναι καὶ ῥήγεα σιγαλδόντα
 ἤχθεσθ', ὅτε πρῶτον Κρήτης ὄρεα νιφόντα
 νοσφισάμην ἐπὶ νηὸς ἰὼν δολιχηρέτμοιο,
 κείω δ' ὥς τὸ πάρος περ ὑπνους νύκτας ἴανον· 340
 πολλὰς γὰρ δὴ νύκτας ἀικελίῳ ἐνὶ κούτῃ
 ἔεσα καὶ τ' ἀνέμεινα ἐύθρονον Πῶ δῖαν.
 οὐδέ τί μοι ποδάνιπτρα ποδῶν ἐπιήρανα θυμῷ
 γίγνεται· οὐδὲ γυνὴ ποδὸς ἄψεται ἡμετέροιο
 τάων αἶ τοι δῶμα κατὰ δρήστειραι ἔασιν, 345
 εἰ μὴ τις γοηὺς ἔστι παλαιή, κεδνὰ ἰδυῖα,
 ἢ τις δὴ τέτληκε τόσα φρεσὶν ὅσσα τ' ἐγὼ περ-
 τῇ δ' οὐκ ἂν φθονέοιμι ποδῶν ἄψασθαι ἐμεῖο."²

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηληϊόπεια·
 "Ξεῖνε φίλ', οὐ γὰρ πῶ τις ἀνὴρ πεπνυμένος ὥδε 350
 ξείνων τηλεδαπῶν φίλων ἐμὸν ἵκετο δῶμα,
 ὥς σὺ μάλ' εὐφραδέως πεπνυμένα πάντ' ὠγορεύεις·

¹ ἐπίφρονα: ἐχέφρονα.

² Lines 346-8 were rejected by Aristarchus.

gain; naught thereafter shall he accomplish here, how fierce soever his wrath. For how shalt thou learn of me, stranger, whether I in any wise excel other women in wit and prudent counsel, if all unkempt and clad in poor raiment thou sittest at meat in my halls? Men are but short-lived. If one be himself hard, and have a hard heart, on him do all mortal men invoke woes for the time to come, while he still lives, and when he is dead all men mock at him. But if one be blameless and have a blameless heart, his fame do strangers bear far and wide among all men, and many call him a true man."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Honoured wife of Odysseus, son of Laertes, verily cloaks and bright coverlets became hateful in my eyes on the day when first I left behind me the snowy mountains of Crete, as I sailed on my long-oared ship. Nay, I will lie, as in time past I was wont to rest through sleepless nights; for many a night have I lain upon a foul bed and waited for the bright-throned Dawn. Aye, and baths for the feet give my heart no pleasure, nor shall any woman touch my foot of all those who are serving-women in thy hall, unless there is some old, true-hearted dame who has suffered in her heart as many woes as I; such an one I would not grudge to touch my feet."

Then wise Penelope answered him again: "Dear stranger, never yet has a man discreet as thou, of those who are strangers from afar, come to my house as a more welcome guest, so wise and prudent are all thy words. I have an old dame with a heart of

ἔστι δέ μοι γρη῏ς πυκινὰ φρεσὶ μῖδε' ἔχουσα,
ἢ κείνον δύστηνον εὖ τρέφειν ἢ δ' ἀτίταλλε,
ἐξαμένη χεῖρεσσ', ὅτε μιν πρῶτον τέκε μήτηρ,

255

ἢ σε πόδας νύφει, ὀλυγηπελέουσα περ ἔμπης.
ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ἀνστάσα, περίφρων Εὐρύκλεια,
νήψον σοῖο ἀνακτος ὀμηλικά· καὶ πού 'Οδυσσεὺς
ἤδη τοιόσδ' ἐστὶ πόδας τοιόσδε τε χεῖρας·

αἶψα γὰρ ἐν κακότητι βροτοὶ καταγῆράσκουσιν." 301

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, γρη῏ς δὲ κατέσχετο χερσὶ πρόσωπα,
δακρυὰ δ' ἔκβαλε θερμό, ἔπος δ' ὀλοφυδρὸν ἔειπεν·

"ὦ μοι ἐγὼ σέο, τέκνον, ἀμήχανος· ἢ σε περὶ Ζεὺς
ἀνθρώπων ἤχθηρε θεοῦδέα θυμὸν ἔχοντα.

οὐ γὰρ πῶ τις τόσσα βροτῶν Διὶ τερπικεραῖνφ
πίονα μηρὶ ἔκῃ οὐδ' ἐξαίτους ἑκατόμβας,

365

δόσσα σὺ τῷ ἐδίδους, ἰρῶμενος ἥος ἱκοιο
γῆρας τε λιπαρὸν θρέψαιό τε φαίδιμον υἱόν·

νῦν δέ τοι οἶφ' ἀμπαν ὑφέλιτο νόστιμον ἡμαρ.
οὕτω πού καὶ κείνῃ ἐφειψιόωντο γυναῖκες

370

ξείνων τηλεδαπῶν, ὅτε τευ κλυτὰ δῶμοθ' ἱκοιτο,
ὥς σέθεν αἱ κύνες αἶδε καθεψιόωνται ἅπασαι,

τάων νῦν λῶβην τε καὶ αἶσχα πόλλ' ὑλεείνων
οὐκ ἐάας νύφειν· ἐμὲ δ' οὐκ ἀέκουσαν ἄνωγε

κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρων Πηνελόπεια.

375

τῷ σε πόδας νύψω ἅμα τ' αὐτῆς Πηνελοπείης
καὶ σέθεν εἵνεκ', ἐπεὶ μοι δρῶρεται ἐνδοθι θυμὸς

κῆδεσιν. ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ξυτίει ἔπος, ὅττι κεν εἴπω·
πολλοὶ δὲ ξεῖνοι ταλαπεῖριοι ἐνθάδ' ἱκοντο,

ἀλλ' οὐ πῶ τινά φημι εἰκότα ὦδε ἰδέσθαι
ὥς σὺ δέμος φωνήν τε πόδας τ' 'Οδυσσῆϊ ἱοικας."

381

¹ The old nurse at first addresses the absent Odysseus, but in line 370 turns to the stranger present before her.

understanding in her breast, who lovingly nursed and cherished my hapless husband, and took him in her arms on the day when his mother bore him. She shall wash thy feet, weak with age though she be. Come now, wise Euryycleia, arise and wash the feet of one of like age with thy master. Even such as his are now haply the feet of Odysseus, and such his hands, for quickly do men grow old in evil fortune."

So she spoke, and the old woman hid her face in her hands and let fall hot tears, uttering words of lamentation:

"Ah, woe is me, child, because of thee, for that I can do naught. Surely Zeus hated thee above all men, though thou hadst a god-fearing heart. For never yet did any mortal burn to Zeus, who hurls the thunderbolt, so many fat thigh-pieces or so many choice hecatombs as thou gavest him, with prayers that thou mightest reach a sleek old age and rear thy glorious son. But lo, now, from thee alone has he wholly cut off the day of thy returning. Even thus, I ween, did women mock at him too,¹ in a strange and distant land, when he came to some man's glorious house, as these shameless creatures here all mock at thee. It is to shun insult now from them and their many taunts that thou dost not suffer them to wash thy feet, but me, who am nothing loath, has the daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, bidden to wash thee. Therefore will I wash thy feet, both for Penelope's own sake and for thine, for the heart within me is stirred with sorrow. But come now, hearken to the word that I shall speak. Many sore-tried strangers have come hither, but I declare that never yet have I seen any man so like another as thou in form, and in voice, and in feet art like Odysseus."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γρη῏, οὕτω φασὶν ὅσοι ἰδὼν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν·

ἡμέας ἀμφοτέροισι, μάλα εἰκέλω ἀλλήλοισιν
 ἔμμεναι, ὥς σύ περ αὐτῇ ἐπιφρονέουσ' ἀγορεύεις." 385

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, γρη῏ς δὲ λέβηθ' ἔλε παμφανόωντα,
 τοῦ πόδας ἔξαπένιζεν, ὕδωρ δ' ἐνεχεύατο πουλύ
 ψυχρόν, ἔπειτα δὲ θερμόν ἐπήφυσεν. αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς
 ἶξεν ἐπ' ἰσχαρόφιν, ποτὶ δὲ σκότον ἐτράπετ' αἶψα·
 αὐτίκα γὰρ κατὰ θυμόν ὄσατο, μή ἑ λαβοῦσα 390
 οὐλήν ἀμφράσσοιτο καὶ ἀμφαδὰ ἔργα γένοιτο.

νίξε δ' ἄρ' ἄσπον ἰοῦσα ἀναχθ' ἰόν· αὐτίκα δ' ἔγνω
 οὐλίην, τὴν ποτὲ μιν σῖς ἤλασε λευκῇ ῥόδοντι
 Παρνησόνδ' ἐλθόντα μετ' Λυτόλυκόν τε καὶ νῖας,
 μητρός ἦς πῖτέρ' ἰσθλόν, ὃς ἀνθρώπους ἐκέκαστο 395
 κλεπτοσύνη θ' ὄρκῳ τε· θεὸς δὲ οἱ αὐτὰς ἔδωκεν

Ἑρμείας· τῇ γὰρ κεχαρισμένα μηρία καίεν
 ἀρνῶν ἢ δ' ἐρίφων· ὃ δὲ οἱ πρόφρων ἄμ' ὀπήδει.

Λυτόλυκος δ' ἐλθὼν Ἰθάκης ἐς πῖονα δῆμον
 παῖδα νέον γεγαῶτα κεχήσατο θυγατέρος ἦς· 400
 τὸν ῥά οἱ Εὐρύκλεια φίλοισι ἐπὶ γούνασι θῆκε
 παυμένῃ δόρποιο, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·

"Λυτόλυκ', αὐτὸς νῦν ὄνομ' εὔρεο ὅττι κε θῆσαι
 παιδὸς παιδὶ φίλῳ· πολυάριθτος δὲ ταῖ ἴσταιν."

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Λυτόλυκος ἀπαμείβετο φώνησέν τε· 405
 "Γαμβρὸς ἐμὸς θυγάτηρ τε, τίθεσθ' ὄνομ' ὅττι κεν εἴπω·
 πολλοῖσιν γὰρ ἐγὼ γε ὀδυσσαμένος τόδ' ἰκάνω,
 ἀνδράσιν ἠδὲ γυναιξὶν ἀνὰ χθόνα πωλυβότειραν·¹

¹ πωλυβότειραν· θυγατέραν.

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Old dame, so say all men whose eyes have beheld us two, that we are very like each other, even as thou thyself dost note and say."

So he spake, and the old dame took the shining cauldron with water wherefrom she was about to wash his feet, and poured in cold water in plenty, and then adiled thereto the warm. But Odysseus sat him down away from the hearth and straightway turned himself toward the darkness, for he at once had a foreboding at heart that, as she touched him, she might note a scar, and the truth be made manifest. So she drew near and began to wash her lord, and straightway knew the scar of the wound which long ago a boar had dealt him with his white tusk, when Odysseus had gone to Parnassus to visit Autolycus and the sons of Autolycus, his mother's noble father, who excelled all men in thievery and in oaths. It was a god himself that had given him this skill, even Hermes, for to him he was wont to burn acceptable sacrifices of the thighs of lambs and kids; so Hermes befriended him with a ready heart. Now Autolycus, on coming once to the rich land of Ithaca, had found his daughter's son a babe new-born, and when he was finishing his supper, Euryeia laid the child upon his knees and spoke, and addressed him:

"Autolycus, find now thyself a name to give to thy child's own child; be sure he has long been prayed for."

Then Autolycus answered her, and said: "My daughter's husband and my daughter, give him whatsoever name I say. Lo, inasmuch as I am come hither as one that has been angered with many, both men and women, over the fruitful earth,

τῷ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ὄνομ' ἔστω ἐπώνυμον· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γε,
 ὅππότε' ἂν ἡβήσας μητρῷον ἐς μέγα δῶμα
 ἔλθῃ Παρνησοῦνδ', ὅθι ποῦ μοι κτήματ' ἔασι,
 τῶν οἱ ἐγὼ δώσω καὶ μιν χαίροντ' ἀποπέμψαι." 410

Τῶν ἔνεκ' ἦλθ' Ὀδυσσεύς, ἵνα οἱ πόροι ἀγλαὰ δῶρα.
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Λύτολυκὸς τε καὶ υἱέες Λύτολύκοιο
 χερσὶν τ' ἡσπάζοντο ἔπεσσι τε μελιχίοισι· 415
 μήτηρ δ' Ἀμφιθέη μητρὸς περιφῦς· Ὀδυσῆϊ
 κύσσει δ' ἄρα μιν κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ἄμφω φάεα καλύ.
 Λύτολυκος δ' υἱοῖσιν ἐκέκλετο κυδαλίμοισι
 δεῖπνον ἐφοπλίσσαι· τὰ δ' ὀτρύνοντος ἄκουσαν,
 αὐτίκα δ' εἰσάγαγον βοῦν ἄρσενά πενταέτηρον· 420
 τὸν δέρον ἄμφι θ' ἔπον, καὶ μιν διέχευαν ἅπαντα,
 μίστυλλον τ' ἄρ' ἐπισταμένως πεῖράν τ' ὀβελοῖσιν,
 ὥπτησάν τε περιφραδέως, δάσσαντό τε μοίρας.
 ὥς τότε μὲν πρόπαν ἡμαρ ἐς ἥλιον καταδύντα
 δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἰση- 425
 ἦμος δ' ἥλιος κατέδυ καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας ἦλθεν,
 δὴ τότε κοιμήσαντο καὶ ὕπνου δῶρον ἔλοντο.

Ἦμος δ' ἡριγένεια φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,
 βῆν ῥ' ἱμεν ἐς θήρην, ἡμὲν κύνες ἠδὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ
 υἱέες Λύτολυκόν· μετὰ τοῖσι δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς 430
 ἦεν· αἰπὺν δ' ὄρος προσέβαν καταειμένον ὕλῃ
 Παρνησοῦ, τάχα δ' ἱκανὸν πτύχας ἤνεμοίσσας.
 Ἥλιος μὲν ἔπειτα νέον προσέβαλλεν ἡρούρας
 ἐξ ἀκαλαρρεῖταιο βαθυρρόου Ὀκεανοῖο,
 οἱ δ' ἐς βῆσσαν ἱκανὸν ἐπακτῆρες· πρὸ δ' ἄρ' αὐτῶν 435
 ἔχυν' ἱρεννῶντες κύνες ἦσαν, αὐτὰρ ὀπισθεν
 υἱέες Λύτολυκόν· μετὰ τοῖσι δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς

therefore let the name by which the child is named be Odysseus.¹ And for my part, when he is a man grown and comes to the great house of his mother's kin at Parnassus, where are my possessions, I will give him thereof and send him back rejoicing."

It was for this reason that Odysseus had come, that Autolycus might give him the glorious gifts. And Autolycus and the sons of Autolycus clasped his hands in welcome and greeted him with gentle words, and Amphithea, his mother's mother, took Odysseus in her arms and kissed his head and both his beautiful eyes. But Autolycus called to his glorious sons to make ready the meal, and they hearkened to his call. At once they led in a bull, five years old, which they flayed and dressed, and cut up all the limbs. Then they sliced these cunningly and pierced them with spits, and roasted them skillfully and distributed the portions. So, then, all day long till set of sun they feasted, nor did their hearts lack aught of the equal feast. But when the sun set and darkness came on they lay down to rest and took the gift of sleep.

But as soon as early Dawn appeared, the rosy-fingered, they went forth to the hunt, the hounds and the sons of Autolycus too, and with them went goodly Odysseus. Up the steep mountain Parnassus, clothed with forests, they climbed, and presently reached its windy hollows. The sun was now just striking on the fields, as he rose from softly-gliding, sleep-flowing Oceanus, when the beaters came to a glade. Before them went the hounds, tracking the scent, and behind them the sons of Autolycus, and among these the goodly Odysseus followed, close

¹ Or "Child of Wrath"; see the note on l. 62.

ἦεν ἄγχι κυνῶν, κραδίῳ δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος.
 ἔνθα δ' ἄρ' ἐν λόχῳ πυκινῇ κατέκειτο μέγας σῦς·
 τὴν μὲν ἄρ' οὐτ' ἀνέμων διώει μένος ὑγρὸν ἀέντων, 440
 οὔτε μιν Ἥλιος φαέθων ἀκτίσιν ἔβαλλεν,
 οὐτ' ὄμβρος περὶάσκει διαμπερές· ὥς ἄρα πυκνὴ
 ἦεν, ἀτὰρ φύλλων ἐνέην χύσις ἤλιθα πολλή.
 τὸν δ' ἀνδρῶν τε κυνῶν τε περὶ κτύπος ἦλθε ποδοῖν,
 ὥς ἐπάγοντες ἐπῆσαν· ὁ δ' ἀντίος ἐκ ξυλόχοιο 445
 φρίξας εὐλοφίην, πῦρ δ' ὀφθαλμοῖσι δεδορκώς,
 στῆ ῥ' αὐτῶν σχεδόν· ὁ δ' ἄρα πρῶτιστος Ὀδυσσεύς
 ἔσσυτ' ἀνασχόμενος δολιχὸν δόρυ χειρὶ παχείῃ,
 οὐτάμναι μεμαώς· ὁ δὲ μιν φθάμενος ἔλασεν σῦς
 γουνὸς ὑπερ, πολλὰν δὲ διήφυσε σαρκοῦς ὀδόντι 450
 λικριφίς ἀΐξας, οὐδ' ὀστέον ἔκετο φωτός.
 τὸν δ' Ὀδυσσεύς οὔτησε τυχίων κατὰ δεξιὸν ὤμον,
 ἀντικρὺ δὲ διήλθε φαινοῦ δουρὸς ἄκωκῇ·
 κὰδ δ' ἔπεσ' ἐν κοίλῃσι μακῶν, ἱπὸ δ' ἔπτατο θυμός.
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Αὔτολύκου παῖδες φίλοι ἄμφεπένοντο, 455
 ὥτειλῃν δ' Ὀδυσῆος ἠμύμονος ἀντιθέοιο
 δῆσαν ἐπισταμένως, ἐπαιδῇ δ' αἶμα κελαινὸν
 ἔσχεθον, αἶψα δ' ἵκοντο φίλον πρὸς δώματα πατρός.
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Αὔτολύκος τε καὶ υἱέες Αὔτολύκοιο
 εὐήσάμενοι ἠδ' ἀγλαὰ δῶρα πορόντες 460
 καρπαλίμως χαίροντα φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἵεπεμπον
 εἰς Ἰθάκην. τῷ μὲν ῥα πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ
 χαῖρον νοστήσαντι καὶ ἔξερείνον ἕκαστα,
 οὐλὴν ὅτι πάθοι· ὁ δ' ἄρα σφίσιν εὐκατέλεξεν
 ὥς μιν θηρεύοντ' ἔλασεν σῦς λευκῷ ὀδόντι, 465
 Παρνησόνδ' ἐλθόντα σὺν νιάσιν Αὔτολύκοιο.

Τὴν γρη῏ς χεῖρεσσι καταπρηνέσσι λαβοῦσα

¹ φίλων ἐς πατρίδ' ἵε φίλους χεῖροντες.

upon the hounds, brandishing his long spear. Now thereby a great wild boar was lying in a thick lair, through which the strength of the wet winds could never blow nor the rays of the bright sun beat, nor could the rain pierce through it, so thick it was; and fallen leaves were there in plenty. Then about the boar there came the noise of the feet of men and dogs as they pressed on in the chase, and forth from his lair he came against them with bristling back and eyes flashing fire, and stood there at bay close before them. Then first of all Odysseus rushed on, holding his long spear on high in his stout hand, rager to smite him; but the boar was too quick for him and struck him above the knee, charging upon him sideways, and with his tusk tore a long gash in the flesh, but did not reach the bone of the man. But Odysseus with sure aim smote him on the right shoulder, and clear through went the point of the bright spear, and the boar fell in the dust with a cry, and his life flew from him. Then the dear sons of Antolycus busied themselves with the carcase, and the wound of noble, god-like Odysseus they bound up skillfully, and checked the black blood with a charm, and straightway returned to the house of their dear father. And when Antolycus and the sons of Antolycus had fully healed him, and had given him glorious gifts, they quickly sent him back with joy to his native land, to Ithaca. Then his father and his honoured mother rejoiced at his return, and asked him all the story, how he got his wound; and he told them all the truth, how, while he was hunting, a boar had struck him with his white tusk when he had gone to Parnassus with the sons of Antolycus.

This scar the old dame, when she had taken the

γνώ ῥ' ἐπιμασσαμένη, πόδα δὲ προΐηκε φέρεσθαι·
 ἐν δὲ λήβητι πέσε κνήμη, κανύχησε δὲ χαλκός.
 ἄψ' ὃ ἐτέρωσ' ἐκλίθη· τὸ δ' ἐπὶ χθοινὸς ἐξέχυσθ' ὕδωρ. 470
 τὴν δ' ἄμα χάρμα καὶ ἄλγος ἔλε φρένα, τῶν δέ οἱ ὅσσε
 δακρυόφι πλησθεν, θαλαρῇ δέ οἱ ἔσχετο φωνή.
 αἰψαμένη δὲ γενείου Ὀδυσσῆα προσέειπεν·

“Ἡ μᾶλ' Ὀδυσσεύς ἐσσι, φίλον τέκος· οὐδέ σ' ἐγὼ γε
 πρὶν ἔγνω, πρὶν πῖντα ἄνακτ' ἐμὸν ἀμφαφάασθαι.” 475

Ἡ καὶ Πηνελόπειαν εἰσέδρακεν ὀφθαλμοῖσι,
 πεφραδέειν ἐθέλουσα φίλον πρόσιν ἔνδον ἔοντα.
 ἢ δ' οὐτ' ὑβρῆσαι δύνατ' ἀντίη οὔτε νοῆσαι·
 τῇ γὰρ Ἀθηναίῃ νόον ἔτραπεν· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς
 χεῖρ' ἐπιμασσάμενος φάρυγος λάβε δεξιτερῇφι, 480
 τῇ δ' ἐτέρῃ θειν ἄσπον ἐρύσσατο φῶνησέν τε.

“Μαῖα, τίη μ' ἐθέλεις ὀλέσαι; σὺ δέ μ' ἔτρεφες αὐτῇ
 τῷ σῷ ἐπὶ μαζῷ· νῦν δ' ἄλγεα πολλὰ μογίστας
 ἵλυσθον εἰκοστῷ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.
 ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ ἐφρυσθῆς καὶ τοι θεὸς ἔμβαλε θυμῷ, 485
 σίγα, μή τίς τ' ἄλλος ἐνὶ μεγάροισι πύθηται.
 ὦδε γὰρ ἐξερέω, καὶ μὲν' τετελεσμένον ἔσται·
 εἴ χ' ὑπ' ἐμοὶ γε θεὸς δαμύση μνηστῆρας ἀγανούς,
 οὐδέ τροφοῦ οὔσης σεῦ ἀφέξομαι, ὅππότε' ἂν ἄλλας
 ἔμψας ἐν μεγάροισιν ἐμοῖς κτείνωμι γυναῖκας.” 490

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Εὐρύκλεια·
 “Τέκνον ἐμόν, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων.
 οἶσθα μὲν οἶον ἐμὸν μένος ἔμπεδον οὐδ' ἐπιεικτόν,
 ἔξω δ' ὡς ὅτε τις στερεὴ λίθος ἢ ἐσίδηρος.
 ἄλλο·δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν” 495

¹ καὶ μὲν· τὸ δὲ καὶ.

limb in the flat of her hands, knew by the touch, and she let fall the foot. Into the basin the leg fell, and the brazen vessel rang. Over it tilted, and the water was spilled upon the ground. Then upon her soul came joy and grief in one moment, and both her eyes were filled with tears and the flow of her voice was checked. But she touched the chin of Odysseus, and said :

"Verily thou art Odysseus, dear child, and I knew thee not, till I had handled all the body of my lord."

She spoke, and with her eyes looked toward Penelope, fain to show her that her dear husband was at home. But Penelope could not meet her glance nor understand, for Athena had turned her thoughts aside. But Odysseus, feeling for the woman's throat, seized it with his right hand, and with the other drew her closer to him, and said :

"Mother, why wilt thou destroy me? Thou didst thyself nurse me at this thy breast, and now after many grievous toils I am come in the twentieth year to my native land. But since thou hast found me out, and a god has put this in thy heart, be silent lest any other in the halls learn hereof. For thus will I speak out to thee, and verily it shall be brought to pass: If a god shall subdue the lordly wooers unto me, I will not spare thee, my nurse though thou art, when I slay the other serving-women in my halls."

Then wise Eurycleia answered him: "My child, what a word has escaped the barrier of thy teeth! Thou knowest how firm my spirit is and unyielding: I shall be as close as hard stone or iron. And another thing will I tell thee, and do thou lay it to

εἴ χ' ὑπὸ σοί γε θεὸς δαμάσῃ μνηστήρος ἀγαυούς,
 δὴ τότε τοι καταλέξω ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γυναῖκας,
 αἳ τέ σ' ἀτιμάζουσι καὶ αἰ νηλεέτιδες εἰσι."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Μαῖα, τίη δὲ σὺ τὰς μυθήσσαι; οὐδέ τί σε χρή. 500
 εὐ νυ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐγὼ φράσομαι καὶ εἴσομ' ἐκάστην·
 ἀλλ' ἔχε σιγῇ μῦθον, ἐπίτρεψον δὲ θεοῖσιν."

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, γρη῏ς δὲ διέκ μεγάροιο βεβήκει
 οἰσομένη ποδάνιπτρα· τὰ γὰρ πρότερ' ἔκχυτο πάντα.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ νύφεν τε καὶ ἡλειψεν λίπ' ἐλαίφ, 505
 αὐτὶς ἄρ' ἄσσοτέρω πυρὸς ἔλκετο δίφρον Ὀδυσσεύς
 θερσόμενος, οὐλὴν δὲ κατὰ βράχέεσσι κάλυψε.

Τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἤρχε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Ξεῖνε, τὸ μὲν σ' ἔτι τυτθὸν ἐγὼν εἰρήσομαι αὐτῇ·
 καὶ γὰρ δὴ κοῖτοιο τάχ' ἔσσεται ἡδὲός ῥη, 510
 ὃν τινά γ' ὕπνιος ἔλοι γλυκερός, καὶ κηδόμενόν περ,
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ καὶ πένθος ἀμέτρητον πόρε δαίμων·
 ἡματα μὲν γὰρ τέρπομ' ὄδνρομένη, γοόωσα,
 ἔς τ' ἐμὰ ἔργ' ὀρόωσα καὶ ἀμφιπόλων ἐνὶ οἴκῳ·
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν νύξ ἔλθῃ, ἔλθῃσί τε κοῖτος ἅπαντας, 515
 κεῖμαι ἐνὶ λέκτρῳ, πυκιναὶ δέ μοι ἀμφ' ἀδινὸν κῆρ
 ὀξεῖαι μελεδῶντες ὀδυρομένην ἱρέθουσιν.

ὥς δ' ὅτε Πανδάρου κόυρη, χλωρῆς ἀηδῶν,
 καλὸν αἰείδῃσιν ἕαρος νέον ἱσταμένοιο,
 δευδρέων ἐν πετάλοισι καθεζομένη πυκινόισιν, 520
 ἢ τε θαμὰ τρωπῶσα χεῖι πολυηχέα φωνήν,
 παῖδ' ὀλοφυρομένη Ἴτυλον φίλον, ὃν ποτε χαλκῷ
 264

heart. If a god shall subdue the lordly wooers unto thee, then will I name over to thee the women in thy halls, which ones dishonour thee, and which are guiltless."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Mother, why, pray, wilt thou speak of them? Thou needest not at all. Of myself will I mark them well, and come to know each one. Nay, keep the matter to thyself, and leave the issue to the gods."

So he spoke, and the old woman went forth through the hall to bring water for his feet, for all the first was spilled. And when she had washed him, and anointed him richly with oil, Odysseus again drew his chair nearer to the fire to warm himself, and hid the scar with his rags.

Then wise Penelope was the first to speak, saying: "Stranger, this little thing further will I ask thee myself, for it will soon be the hour for pleasant rest, for him at least on whom sweet sleep may come despite his care. But to me has a god given sorrow that is beyond all measure, for day by day I find my joy in mourning and lamenting, while looking to my household tasks and those of my women in the house, but when night comes and sleep lays hold of all, I lie upon my bed, and sharp cares, crowding close about my throbbing heart, disquiet me, as I mourn. Even as when the daughter of Pandareus, the nightingale of the greenwood,¹ sings sweetly, when spring is newly come, as she sits perched amid the thick leafage of the trees, and with many trilling notes pours forth her rich voice in wailing for her child, dear Itylus, whom she had one day slain with

¹ So the scholiast, & *ἡ χλωρὴ ἑσπέρια*. Others understand the word of the colour of the bird itself.

- κτεῖνε δι' ἀφραδίας, κοῦρον Ζήθοιο ἀνακτος,
 ὥς καὶ ἐμοὶ δίχα θυμὸς ὁρώρεται ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα,
 ἢ ἐμένω παρὰ παιδὶ καὶ ἔμπεδα πάντα φυλάσσω, 523
 κτήσιν ἐμήν, δμῳάς τε καὶ ὑψερεφές μέγα δῶμα,
 εὐνὴν τ' αἰδομένη πύσιος δήμοιο τε φῆμιν,
 ἢ ἤδη ἅμ' ἐπωμαι Ἀχαιῶν ὅς τις ἄριστος
 μῆναι ἐνὶ μεγάροισι, πορῶν ὑπερείσια ἔδνα.
 παῖς δ' ἐμὸς ἦος ἔην ἔτι νῆπιος ἡδὲ χαλὶφρων, 530
 γήμασθ' οὐ μ' εἶα πύσιος κατὰ δῶμα λιποῦσαν·
 νῦν δ' ὅτε δὴ μέγας ἵστί καὶ ἡβης μέτρον ἰκάνει,
 καὶ δὴ μ' ἀρᾶται πάλιν ἐλθέμεν ἐκ μεγάροιο,
 κτήσιος ἀσχαλῶν, τήν οἱ κατέδουσιν Ἀχαιοί.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τὸν ὄνειρον ὑπόκριναι καὶ ἄκουσον. 535
 χῆνές μοι κατὰ οἶκον ἰέκοσι πυρὸν ἔδουσιν
 ἐξ ὕδατος, καὶ τέ σφιν λαίνομαι εἰσορῶσα·
 ἐλθὼν δ' ἐξ ὄρεος μέγας αἰετὸς ἀγκυλοχείλης
 πᾶσι κατ' αὐχένας ἤξε καὶ ἔκτανεν· οἱ δ' ἐκέχυντο
 ἀθρόοι ἐν μεγάροισι, ὃ δ' ἐς αἰθέρα διᾶν ἀέρθη. 540
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κλαῖον καὶ ἐκώκυσον ἐν περ ὀνείρῃ,
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἐμ' ἠγερέθοντο εὐπλοκάμιδες Ἀχαιοί,
 οἴκτρ' ὀλοφυρομένην ὃ μοι αἰετὸς ἔκτανε χήνας.
 ἀψ δ' ἐλθὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔξετ' ἐπὶ προὔχοντι μελιίβρῃ,
 φωνῇ δὲ βροτῇ κατερήνυε φῶνησέν τε· 545
 "· Θάρσει, Ἰκαρίῳ κούρῃ τηλεκλειτοῖο·
 οὐκ ὄναρ, ἀλλ' ὑπάρ ἐσθλόν, ὃ τοι τετελεσμένον ἔσται.
 χῆνες μὲν μνηστήρες, ἐγὼ δέ τοι αἰετὸς ὄρνις

the sword unwittingly, Itylus, the son of king Zethus; even so my heart sways to and fro in doubt, whether to abide with my son and keep all things safe, my possessions, my slaves, and my great, high-roofed house, respecting the bed of my husband and the voice of the people, or to go now with him whosoever is best of the Achæans, who woo me in the halls and offers bride-gifts just counting. Furthermore my son, so long as he was a child and slack of wit, would not suffer me to marry and leave the house of my husband; but now that he is grown and has reached the bounds of manhood, lo, he even prays me to go back again from these halls, being vexed for his substance that the Achæans devour to his cost. But come now, hear this dream of mine, and interpret it for me. Twenty geese I have in the house¹ that come forth from the water¹ and eat wheat, and my heart warms with joy as I watch them. But forth from the mountain there came a great eagle with crooked beak and broke all their necks and killed them; and they lay strewn in a heap in the halls, while he was borne aloft to the bright sky. Now for my part I wept and wailed, in a dream though it was, and round me thronged the fair-tressed Achæan women, as I grieved piteously because the eagle had slain my geese. Then back he came and perched upon a projecting roof-beam, and with the voice of a mortal man checked my weeping, and said:

"Be of good cheer, daughter of far-famed Icarus; this is no dream, but a true vision of good which shall verily find fulfilment. The geese are the wooers, and I, that before was the eagle, am now

¹ Others take *ἐξ ὕδατος* closely with *καὶ*, "eat wheat out of the water-trough."

ἦα πάρος, νῦν αὖτε τὸς πόσις εἰλήλουθα,
δὲ πᾶσι μνηστῆρσιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφήσω·

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“ὦς ἔφατ’, αὐτὰρ ἐμὲ μελιηδὺς ὕπνος ἀνῆκε·
παπτήνασα δὲ χῆνας ἐνὶ μεγάροισι νόησα
πυρὸν ἐρπτομένους παρὰ πύελον, ἦχι πάρος περ.”

Τὴν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

“ὦ γύναι, οὐ πῶς ἔστιν ὑποκρίνασθαι ὄνειρον
ἄλλῃ ἀποκλίναντ’, ἐπεὶ ἡ ῥίη τοι αὐτὸς Ὀδυσσεύς
πέφραδ’ ὅπως τελείει· μνηστῆρσι δὲ φαίνεται ὄλεθρος
πᾶσι μάλ’, οὐδέ κέ τις θάνατον καὶ κῆρας ἀλύξει.”

555

Τὸν δ’ αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·

“Ξαῖν’, ἡ τοι μὲν ὄνειροι ἀμήχανοι ἀκριτόμυθοι
γίγνont’, οὐδέ τι πάντα τελείεται ἀνθρώποισι.

560

δοιαί γάρ τε πύλαι ἀμνηνῶν εἰσὶν ὀνείρων·
αἱ μὲν γὰρ κερύεισσι τετεύχεται, αἱ δ’ ἐλέφαντι·

τῶν οἳ μὲν κ’ ἔλθωσι διὰ πριστοῦ ἐλέφαντος,

οἳ ῥ’ ἐλεφαίρονται, ἔπε’ ἀκράαντα φέροντες·

565

οἱ δὲ διὰ ξεστοῶν κερύων ἔλθωσι θύραζε,

οἳ ῥ’ ἔτυμα κραίνουσι, βροτῶν ὅτε κέν τις ἴδῃται.

ἀλλ’ ἐμοὶ οὐκ ἐντεῦθεν ὁλομαι αἰνὸν ὄνειρον
ἐλθέμεν· ἢ κ’ ὤσπαστόν ἐμοὶ καὶ παιδὲ γένοιτο.

ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ’ ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·

570

ἦδε δὴ ἦδ’ εἰσι θυσώνυμος, ἦ μ’ Ὀδυσῆος

οἴκου ἀποσχῆσει· νῦν γὰρ καταθήσω ἄεθλον,

τοὺς πελέκειας, τοὺς κείνος ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐοῖσιν

ἴστασχ’ ἐξείης, δρυόχονς ὥς, δώδεκα πάντας·

again come back as thy husband, who will let loose
a cruel doom upon all the wooers."

"So he spoke, and sweet sleep released me, and
looking about I saw the geese in the halls, feeding
on wheat beside the trough, where they had before
been wont to feed."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her and
said: "Lady, in no wise is it possible to wrest this
dream aside and give it another meaning, since verily
Odysseus himself has shewn thee how he will bring
it to pass. For the wooers' destruction is plain to see,
for one and all; not one of them shall escape death
and the fates."

Then wise Penelope answered him again: "Stranger,
dreams verily are baffling and unclear of meaning,
and in no wise do they find fulfilment in all things
for men. For two are the gates of shadowy dreams,
and one is fashioned of horn and one of ivory. Those
dreams that pass through the gate of sawn ivory de-
ceive men, bringing words that find no fulfilment.¹
But those that come forth through the gate of
polished horn bring true issues to pass, when any
mortal sees them. But in my case it was not from
thence, methinks, that my strange dream came. Ah,
truly it would then have been welcome to me and to
my son. But another thing will I tell thee, and do
thou lay it to heart. Even now is coming on this
morn of evil name which is to cut me off from the
house of Odysseus; for now I shall appoint for a con-
test those axes which he was wont to set up in line
in his halls, like props of a ship that is building,

¹ The play upon the words *αἰψας*, "horn," and *εἰσέρω*,
"fulfil," and upon *δαίρας*, "ivory," and *δαρπαρῶμαι*,
"deceive," cannot be preserved in English.

στὰς δ' ὃ γε πολλὸν ἀνευθε διαρρίπτασκεν οἰστόν. 575
 νῦν δὲ μνηστήρεσσιν ἄεθλον τοῦτον ἐφήσω·
 δε δέ κε ῥήϊτατ' ἐντανύσῃ βιὸν ἐν παλάμῃσι
 καὶ διοίστευσῃ πελέκεων δυοκαίδεκα πάντων,
 τῇ κεν ἄμ' ἐσποίμην, νοσφισσαμένη τύδε δῶμα
 κουρίδιον, μῦλα καλόν, ἐνίπλειον βιότοια· 580
 τοῦ ποτὲ μεμνήσεσθαι ὀλομαι ἐν περ ὀνείρῳ."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γύναι αἰδοίῃ Λαερτιάδεω Ὀδυσῆος,
 μηκέτι νῦν ἀνάβαλλε δόμοις ἐνι τοῦτον ἄεθλον·
 πρὶν γάρ τοι πολύμητις ἐλεύσεται ἐνθάδ' Ὀδυσσεύς, 585
 πρὶν τούτους τόδε τόξον εὐξοὸν ἀμφαφύωντας
 νευρὴν τ' ἐντανύσαι διοίστευσάι τε σιδήρου."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Εἰ κ' ἐθέλοις μοι, ξεῖνε, παρήμενος ἐν μεγάροις
 τέρπειν, οὐ κέ μοι ὕπνος ἐπὶ βλεφάροις χυθῇ. 590
 ἀλλ' οὐ γάρ πως ἔστιν ἀϋπνοὺς ἔμμεναι αἰεὶ
 ἀνθρώπους· ἐπὶ γάρ τοι ἐκίστῳ μοῖραν ἔθηκαν
 ἀθάνατοι θνητοῖσιν ἐπὶ ζεῖδωρον ἄρουραν.
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι μὲν ἐγὼν ὑπερώϊον εἰσαναβῆσα
 λέξομαι εἰς εὐνήν, ἣ μοι στονόεσσα τέτυκται, 595
 αἰεὶ δάκρυς ἑμοῖσι πεφυρμένη, ἔξ οὗ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ᾤχετ' ἐποψόμενος Κακοῖλιον οὐκ ὀνομοστήν.
 ἐνθα κε λεξαίμην· σὺ δὲ λέξεο τῷδ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 ἢ χαμόδις στορέσας ἦ τοι κατὰ δέμνια θέντων."

¹ We are to understand, first, that in a trench dug in the earthen floor of the *mégaron* twelve axes were set up in a row, their appearance suggesting the blocks or pieces on

twelve in all, and he would stand afar off and shoot an arrow through them.¹ Now then I shall set this contest before the wooers: whosoever shall most easily string the bow in his hands, and shoot an arrow through all twelve axes, with him will I go and forsake this house of my wedded life, a house most fair and filled with livelihood, which, methinks, I shall ever remember even in my dreams."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Honoured wife of Odysseus, son of Laertes, no longer now do thou put off this contest in thy halls; for, I tell thee, Odysseus of many wiles will be here, ere these men, handling this polished bow, shall have strung it, and shot an arrow through the iron."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "If thou couldest but wish, stranger, to sit here in my halls and give me joy, sleep should never be shed over my eyelids. But it is in no wise possible that men should forever be sleepless, for the Immortals have appointed a proper time for each thing upon the earth, the giver of grain. But I verily will go to my upper chamber and lay me on my bed, which has become for me a bed of wailings, ever bedewed with my tears, since the day when Odysseus went to see evil Ilios, that should never be named. There will I lay me down, but do thou lie down here in the hall, when thou hast strewn bedding on the floor; or let the maids set a bedstead for thee."

which the keel of a ship was laid in shipbuilding; further, that the metal heads of the axes were so shaped as to leave a hole of some sort (such axes have actually survived from Mycenaean days); and lastly, that an expert archer could shoot an arrow through all twelve holes, the axes being carefully placed in line, as through a sort of tube.

ὣς εἰποῦς' ἀνέβαιν' ὑπερώϊα σιγαλόεντα,
 οὐκ οἶη, ἅμα τῇ γε καὶ ἀμφίπολοι κίον ἄλλαι.
 ἔς δ' ὑπερῷ' ἀναβᾶσα σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξὶ
 κλαῖεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα, φίλον πόσιν, ὅφρα οἱ ὕπνον
 ἤδ' ἐπὶ βλεφάροισι βάλε γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.

THE ODYSSEY, XIX. 600-604

So saying, she went up to her bright upper chamber,
not alone, for with her went her handmaids as well.
And when she had gone up to her upper chamber
with her handmaids, she then bewailed Odysseus,
her dear husband, until flashing-eyed Athene cast
sweet sleep upon her eyelids.

Λὺτάρ ὁ ἐν προδόμῳ εὐνάζετο διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς·
 καὶ μὲν ἀδέψητον βοέην στόρεσ', αὐτὰρ ὑπερθε
 κῶεα πόλλ' ὄλων, τοὺς ἱρεύεσκον Ἀχαιοί·
 Εὐρυνόμη δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ χλαῖναν βύλε κοιμηθέντι.
 ἐνθ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μνηστῆρσι κακὰ φρονέων ἐνὶ θυμῷ 5
 κεῖτ' ἐγρηγορόων· ταὶ δ' ἐκ μεγάρῳ γυναικες
 ἦλσαν, αἱ μνηστῆρσιν ἐμσγέσκοντο πύρος περ,
 ἀλλήλῃσι γέλω τε καὶ εὐφροσύνην παρέχουσαι.
 τοῦ δ' ὠρίνετο θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλοισι·
 πολλὰ δὲ μερμήριζε κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν, 10
 ἥδ' μεταίξας θάνατον τεύξειεν ἐκίστη,
 ἢ ἔτ' ἐφ' μνηστῆρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισι μιγῆναι
 ὕστατα καὶ πύματα, κραδίη δὲ οἱ ἔνδον ὕλάκτει.
 ὥς δὲ κύων ἀμαλῇσι περὶ σκυλάκεσσι βεβῶσα
 ἄνδρ' ἀγνοήσας ὕλῃι μέμονέν τε μίχεσθαι, 15
 ὥς ῥα τοῦ ἔνδον ὕλάκτει ἄγαιομένου κακὰ ἔργα·
 στήθος δὲ πλήξας κραδίην ἠτίπαπε μύθῳ·

"Τέτλαθι δῆ, κραδίη· καὶ κύντερον ἄλλο ποτ' ἔτιλῃς.
 ἤματι τῷ ὅτε μοι μένος ἄσχετος ἦσθις Κύκλωψ
 ἰφθίμους ἐτάρους· σὺ δ' ἐτόλμας, ὅφρα σε μήτις 20
 ἐξάγαγ' ἐξ ἀντροῖο διόκμενον θανέεσθαι."

Ὡς ἔφατ', ἐν στήθεσσι καθαπτόμενος φίλον ἦτορ·
 τῷ δὲ μῆλ' ἐν πείσῃ κραδίη μένε τετληυῖα

BOOK XX

BUT the goodly Odysseus lay down to sleep in the fore-hall of the house. On the ground he spread an undressed ox-hide and above it many fleeces of sheep, which the Achæans were wont to slay, and Eurynome threw over him a cloak, when he had laid him down. There Odysseus, pondering in his heart evil for the wooers, lay sleepless. And the women came forth from the hall, those that had before been wont to lie with the wooers, making laughter and merriment among themselves. But the heart was stirred in his breast, and much he debated in mind and heart, whether he should rush after them and deal death to each, or suffer them to lie with the insolent wooers for the last and latest time; and his heart growled within him. And as a bitch stands over her tender whelps growling, when she sees a man she does not know, and is eager to fight, so his heart growled within him in his wrath at their evil deeds; but he smote his breast, and rebuked his heart, saying:

"Endure, my heart; a worse thing even than this didst thou once endure on that day when the Cyclops, unrestrained in daring, devoured my mighty comrades; but thou didst endure until craft got thee forth from the cave where thou thoughtest to die."

So he spoke, chiding the heart in his breast, and his heart remained bound¹ within him to endure

¹ So the scholiast, who renders by *ὑποταγή*. Others connect *ῥησιν* with *ὑποταγή*, and render "in obedience."

νωλεμέως· ἀτὰρ αὐτὸς ἐλίσσεται ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε γαστέρ' ὑνὴρ πολίος πυρὸς αἰθομένοιο, 25
 ἐμπλείην κνίσσης τε καὶ αἵματος, ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα
 αἰόλλῃ, μάλα δ' ὦκα λιλαίεται ὀπτηθῆναι,
 ὥς ἄρ' ὃ γ' ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα ἐλίσσεται, μερμηρίζων
 δππως δὴ μνηστῆρσιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφήσει
 μούνος ἰὼν πολέσι. σχεδόθεν δέ οἱ ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη 30
 οὐρανόθεν καταβάσα· δέμας δ' ἦϊκτο γυναικί·
 στή δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπε·

“Τίπτε αὐτ' ἐγρήσσεις, πάντων περὶ κάμμορε φωτῶν;
 οἶκος μὲν τοι ὅδ' ἐστί, γυνὴ δέ τοι ἦδ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ·
 καὶ παῖς, οἷόν ποῦ τις ἐέλδεται ἔμμεναι νῆα.” 35

Ἴην δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε πάντα, θεή, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες·
 ἀλλὰ τί μοι τόδε θυμός ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μερμηρίζει,
 δππως δὴ μνηστῆρσιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφήσω,
 μούνος ἰὼν· οἱ δ' αἶν ἀολλέες ἐνδον ἔασι. 40
 πρὸς δ' ἔτι καὶ τόδε μείζον ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μερμηρίζω·
 εἴ περ γὰρ κτείναιμι Διὸς τε σέθεν τε ἔκρητι,
 πῇ κεν ὑπεκπροφύγοιμι; τί σε φράζεσθαι ἄνωγα.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 “Σχέτλιε, καὶ μὲν τίς τε χερεῖονι πείθει' ἐταίρῳ, 45
 ὅς περ θνητὸς τ' ἐστὶ καὶ οὐ τόσα μῆδεα οἶδεν·
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ θεὸς εἰμι, διαμπερές ἢ σε φυλάσσω
 ἐν πάντεσσι πόνοις. ἐρέω δέ τοι ἔξαναφανδόν·
 εἴ περ πεντήκοντα λόχοι μερόπων ἀνθρώπων
 νῶϊ περισταῖεν, κτεῖναι μεμαῶτες Ἀργί, 50
 καὶ κεν τῶν ἐλίσσαιο βόας καὶ ἵφια μῆλα.

steadfastly; but he himself lay tossing this way and that. And as when a man before a great blazing fire turns swiftly this way and that a paunch full of fat and blood, and is very eager to have it roasted quickly, so Odysseus tossed from side to side, pondering how he might put forth his hands upon the shameless wooers, one man as he was against so many. Then Athene came down from heaven and drew near to him in the likeness of a woman, and she stood above his head, and spoke to him, and said:

"Why now again art thou wakeful, ill-fated above all men? Lo, this is thy house, and here within is thy wife and thy child, such a man, methinks, as any one might pray to have for his son."

And Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Yea, goddess, all this hast thou spoken aright. But the heart in my breast is pondering somewhat upon this, how I may put forth my hands upon the shameless wooers, all alone as I am, while they remain always in a body in the house. And furthermore this other and harder thing I ponder in my mind: even if I were to slay them by the will of Zeus and of myself, where then should I find escape from hate? Of this I bid thee take thought."

Then the godless, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him: "Obstinate one, many a man puts his trust even in a weaker friend than I am, one that is mortal, and knows not such wisdom as mine; but I am a god, that guard thee to the end in all thy toils. And I will tell thee openly; if fifty troops of mortal men should stand about us, eager to slay us in battle, even their cattle and goodly sheep shouldest thou drive off. Nay, let sleep now come nver thee.

ἀλλ' ἐλέτω σε καὶ ὕπνος· ἀνίη καὶ τὸ φυλίσσειν
πάννυχον ἐγρήσσοντα, κακῶν δ' ὑποδύσειαι ἤδη."

"Ὡς φάτο, καὶ ρῆα οἱ ὕπνον ἐπὶ βλεφάροισιν ἔχευεν,
αὐτὴ δ' ἄψ ἔς Ὀλυμπον ἀφίκετο διὰ θεάων. 55

Εὖτε τὸν ὕπνος ἔμαρπτε, λύων μελεδήματα θυμοῦ,
λυσιμελῆς, ἄλοχος δ' ἄρ' ἐπέγρετο κεδνὰ ἰδυῖα·
κλαῖς δ' ἄρ' ἐν λέκτροισι καθεζομένη μαλακοῖσιν.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κλαίουσα κορέσσατο ὃν κατὰ θυμόν,
Ἄρτέμιδι πρῶτιστον ἐπεύξατο διὰ γυναικῶν 60

"Ἄρτεμι, πότνα θεά, θύγατερ Διός, αἶθε μοι ἤδη
ἰὼν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι βαλοῦσ' ἐκ θυμόν εἰλοιο
αὐτίκα νῦν, ἢ ἔπειτα μ' ἀναρπάξασα θύελλα
οἰχοιτο προφέρουσα κατ' ἡρώεντα κέλευθα,
ἐν προχοῇς δὲ βάλοι ἰψορρόδον Ὀκειαοῖο. 65
ὥς δ' ὅτε Πανδαρίου κούρας ἠνέλοντο θύελλαι·
τῇσι τοκῆας μὲν φθίσαν θεοί, αἱ δ' ἐλίποντο
ὄρφαναι ἐν μεγάροισι, κόμισσε δὲ δῖ' Ἀφροδίτη
τυρῶ καὶ μέλιτι γλυκερῷ καὶ ἡδέϊ οἶνφ·

"Ἦρῃ δ' αὐτῇσιν περὶ πασέων δῶκε γυναικῶν 70
εἶδος καὶ πινυτήν, μῆκος δ' ἔπορ' Ἄρτεμις ἀγνή,
ἔργα δ' Ἀθηναίῃ δέδασ κλυτὰ ἔργάζεσθαι.

εὖτ' Ἀφροδίτῃ διὰ προσέστιχε μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,
κούρης αἰτήσουσα τέλος θαλεροῖο γάμοιο—
ἔς Δία τερπικέραυνον, ὃ γάρ τ' εὖ οἶδεν ἅπαντα, 75
μοῖράν τ' ἁμμορίην τε καταθνητῶν ἀνθρώπων—
τόφρα δὲ τὰς κούρας ἄρπυιαι ἀνιηρεῖσαντο
καὶ ῥ' ἔδωσαν στυγερῇσιν ἐρινύσιν ἀμφιπολεύειν
ὥς ἔμ' αἰστώσειαν Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες,

There is weariness also in keeping wakeful watch the whole night through; and even now shalt thou come forth from out thy perils."

So she spoke, and sheil sleep upon his eyelids, but herself, the fair goddess, went back to Olympus.

Now while sleep seized him, loosening the ears of his heart, sleep that loosens the limbs of men, his true-hearted wife awoke, and wept, as she sat upon her soft bed. But when her heart had had its fill of weeping, to Artemis first of all the fair lady made her prayer:

"Artemis, mighty goddess, daughter of Zeus, would that now thou wouldest fix thy arrow in my breast and take away my life even in this hour; or that a storm-wind might catch me up and bear me hence over tho murky ways, and cast me furth at the mouth of backward-flowing Oceanus, even as on a time storm-winds bore away the daughters of Pandareus. Their parents the gods had slain, and they were left orphans in the halls, and fair Aphrodite tended them with cheese, and sweet honey, and pleasant wine, and Here gave them beauty and wisdom above all women, and chaste Artemis gave them stature, and Athene taught them skill in famous handiwork. But while beautiful Aphrodite was going to high Olympus to ask for the maidens the accomplishment of gladsome marriage—going to Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt, for well he knows all things, both the happiness and the haplessness of mortal men—meanwhile the spirits of the storm snatched away the maidens and gave them to the hateful Erinyes to deal with.¹ Would that even so those who have dwellings on Olympus would blot me from sight, or that fair-tressed

¹ Others render "to be their servants."

ἤέ μ' εὐπλόκαμος βάλοι Ἄρτεμις, δφρ' Ὀδυσῆα 80
 ὀσσομένη καὶ γαῖαν ὑπο στυγερὴν ἀφικοίμην,
 μηδέ τι χείρονος ἀνδρὸς εὐφραίνοιμι νόημα.
 ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν καὶ ἀνεκτὸν ἔχει κακὸν, ὅππότε κέν τις
 ἤματα μὲν κλαίῃ, πυκινῶς ἀκαχήμενος ἦτορ,
 νύκτας δ' ὕπνος ἐχῇσιν—ὁ γάρ τ' ἐπέλησεν ἀπάντων, 83
 ἐσθλῶν ἠδὲ κακῶν, ἐπεὶ ἄρ βλέφαρ' ἀμφικαλύψῃ—
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ καὶ ὀνείρατ' ἐπέσσευεν κακὰ δαίμων.
 τῆδε γὰρ αὖ μοι νυκτὶ παρέδραθεν εἵκελος αὐτῷ,
 τοῖος ἐὼν οἷος ἦεν ἅμα στρατῷ· αὐτὰρ ἐμὸν κῆρ
 χαῖρ', ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐφάμην θναρ' ἐμμεναι, ἀλλ' ὕπαρ ἦδη." 86
 "Ὡς ἔφατ', αὐτίκα δὲ χρυσόθρονος ἤλυθεν Ἥως.
 τῆς δ' ἄρα κλαιούσης ὅπα σύνθετο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 μερμήριξε δ' ἔπειτα, δόκησε δὲ οἱ κατὰ θυμὸν
 ἦδη γιγνώσκουσα παρεστάμεναι κεφαλῇφι.
 χλαῖναν μὲν συνελὼν καὶ κῶσα, τοῖσιν ἐνεῦδεν, 93
 ἐς μέγαρον κατέθηκεν ἐπὶ θρόνου, ἐκ δὲ βοεῖην
 θῆκε θύροζε φέρων. Διὶ δ' εὗξατο χεῖρος ἀνασχών·
 "Ζεῦ πάτερ, εἰ μ' ἐθέλοντες ἐπὶ τραφερὴν τε καὶ ἱγρὴν
 ἦγες ἐμὴν ἐς γαῖαν, ἐπεὶ μ' ἐκακώσατε λίην,
 φῆμην τίς μοι φάσθω ἐγειρομένων ἀνθρώπων 100
 ἐνδοθεν, ἔκτοσθεν δὲ Διὸς τέρας ἄλλο φανήτω."
 "Ὡς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος· τοῦ δ' ἐκλυε μητίετα Ζεὺς,
 αὐτίκα δ' ἐβρόντησεν ἀπ' αἰγλήεντος Ὀλύμπου,
 ἰψόθεν ἐκ νεφέων· γῆθησε δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.
 φῆμην δ' ἐξ οἴκοιο γυνὴ προέηκεν ἀλετρίς 105
 πλησίον, ἐνθ' ἄρα οἱ μῦλαι ἦτο ποίμενι λαῶν,
 280

Artemis would smite me, so that with Odysseus before my mind I might even pass beneath the hateful earth, and never gladden in any wise the heart of a baser man. Yet when a man weeps by day with a heart sore distressed, but at night sleep holds him, this brings with it an evil that may well be borne—for sleep makes one forget all things, the good and the evil, when once it envelops the eyelids—but upon me a god sends evil dreams as well. For this night again there lay by my side one like him, even such as he was when he went forth with the host, and my heart was glad, for I deemed it was no dream, but the truth at last."

So she spoke, and straightway came golden-throned Dawn. But as she wept goodly Odysseus heard her voice, and thereupon he mused, and it seemed to his heart that she knew him and was standing by his head. Then he gathered up the cloak and the fleeces on which he was lying and laid them on a chair in the hall, and carried the ox-hide out of doors and set it down; and he lifted up his hands and prayed to Zeus:

"Father Zeus, if of your good will ye gods have brought me over land and sea to my own country, when ye had afflicted me sore, let some one of those who are awaking utter a word of omen for me within, and without let a sign from Zeus be shown besides."

So he spoke in prayer, and Zeus the counsellor heard him. Straightway he thundered from gleaming Olympus, from on high from out the clouds; and goodly Odysseus was glad. And a woman, grinding at the mill, uttered a word of omen from within the house hard by, where the mills of the shepherd of

τῇσιν δώδεκα πᾶσαι ἐπερρώοντο γυναῖκες
 ἄλφита τεύχουσαι καὶ ἀλείατα, μυελὸν ἀνδρῶν.
 αἱ μὲν ἄρ' ἄλλαι εὐδον, ἐπεὶ κατὰ πυρὸν ἄλεσαν,
 ἡ δὲ μὲ οὐπω παύειτ', ἀφαιροτάτῃ δ' ἐτέτυκτο· 110
 ἦ ῥα μύλην στήσασα ἔπος φάτο, σῆμα ἄνακτι·

"Ζεῦ πάτερ, ὅς τε θεοῖσι καὶ ἀνθρώποισιν ἀνίσσεται,
 ἡ μεγάλ' ἐβρόντησας ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ ἀστερόεντος,
 οὐδέ ποθι νέφος ἐστί· τέρας νύ τινι τόδε φαίνεται.
 κρήνον νῦν καὶ ἐμοὶ δειλῇ ἔπος, ὅττι κεν εἴπω· 115
 μνηστῆρες πύματόν τε καὶ ὕστατον ἡματι τῷδε
 ἐν μεγάρῳ Ὀδυσῆος ἐλοίατο δαῖτ' ἐρατεινὴν,
 οἱ δὴ μοι καμάτῳ θυμαλγῆ γούνατ' ἔλυσαν
 ἄλφита τευχούσῃ· νῦν ὕστατα δειπνήσειαν."

ᾧ δ' ἄρ' ἔφη, χαίρειν δὲ κληδόνι διος Ὀδυσσεὺς 120
 Ζηνὸς τε βροντῇ· φάτο γάρ τίσασθαι ἀλείτας.

Λί δ' ἄλλαι δμῳαὶ κατὰ δώματα κίλ' Ὀδυσῆος
 ἀγρόμεναι¹ ἀνέκαιον ἐπ' ἰσχάρι ἀκύματον πῦρ.
 Τηλέμαχος δ' εὐνῆθεν ἀνίστατο, ἰσότητος φῶς,
 εἶματα ἰσοσάμενος· περὶ δὲ ξίφος ὀξὺ θέτ' ὤμῳ· 125
 ποσσὶ δ' ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσιν ἐδήσατο καλὰ πέδιλα,
 εἴλετο δ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος, ἀκαχμένον ὀξεί χαλκῷ·
 στή δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν, πρὸς δ' Εὐρύκλειαν ἔειπε·

"Μαῖα φίλη, τὸν ξεῖνον ἐτιμήσασθ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
 εὐνῇ καὶ σίτῳ, ἡ αὐτῶς κεῖται ἀκηδής· 130
 τοιαύτη γὰρ ἐμὴ μήτηρ, πινυτὴ περ ἐούσα·
 ἐμπλήγδην ἑτερόν γε τίσι μερόπων ἀνθρώπων
 χείρουα, τὸν ἐξ τ' ἀρείον' ἀτιμήσας ἀποπέμπει."

¹ ἀγρόμεναι: ἐγρόμεναι.

the people were set. At these mills twelve women in all were wont to ply their tasks, making meal of barley and of wheat, the marrow of men. Now the others were sleeping, for they had ground their wheat, but she alone had not yet ceased, for she was the weakest of all. She now stopped her mill and spoke a word, a sign for her master:

"Father Zeus, who art lord over gods and men, verily loud hast thou thundered from the starry sky, yet nowhere is there any cloud: surely this is a sign that thou art showing to some own. Fulfil now even for wretched me the word that I shall speak. May the wooers this day for the last and latest time hold their glad feast in the halls of Odysseus. They that have loosened my limbs with bitter labour, as I made them barley meal, may they now sup their last."

So she spoke, and goodly Odysseus was glad at the word of men and at the thunder of Zeus, for he thought he had gotten vengeance on the guilty.

Now the other maids in the fair palace of Odysseus had gathered together and were kindling on the hearth unwearied fire, and Telemachus rose from his bed, a godlike man, and put on his clothing. He slung his sharp sword about his shoulder, and beneath his shining feet he bound his fair sandals; and he took his mighty spear, tipped with sharp iron, and went and stood upon the threshold, and spoke to Euryeia:

"Dear nurse, have ye honoured the stranger in our house with bed and food, or does he lie all uncared for? For such is my mother's way, wise though she is: in wondrous fashion she honours one of mortal men, though he be the worse, while the better she sends unhonoured away."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Εὐρύκλεια·
 "Οὐκ ἂν μιν νῦν, τέκνον, ἀναίτιον αἰτιόω.
 οἶνον μὲν γὰρ πίνε καθήμενος, δῆρ' ἔθελ' αὐτός,
 σίτου δ' οὐκέτ' ἔφη πεινήμεναι· εἶρετο γάρ μιν.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ κοίτοιο καὶ ὕπνου μιμνήσκοιτο,
 ἢ μὲν δέμνι ἀνωγεν ὑποστορέσαι δμῳῆσιν,
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ', ὥς τις πᾶμπαν οἰζυρὸς καὶ ἄποτμος,
 οὐκ ἔθελ' ἐν λέκτροισι καὶ ἐν βήγεσσι καθεύδειν,
 ἀλλ' ἐν ἀδεψήτῳ βοῶν καὶ κώεσιν οἴων
 ἔδραθ' ἐνὶ προδομῷ· χλαῖναν δ' ἐπέσασαμεν ἡμεῖς."
 "Ὡς φῦτο, Ἐηλέμαχος δὲ διέκ μεγάρῳ βεβήκει
 ἔγχος ἔχων, ἅμα τῷ γε δῶα κύνες¹ ἄργοι ἔποντο.
 βῆ δ' ἴμεν εἰς ἀγορὴν μετ' εὐκνημίδας Ἀχαιοὺς.
 ἢ δ' αὖτε δμῳῆσιν ἐκέκλετο διὰ γυναικῶν,
 Εὐρύκλει', ὦπος θυγάτηρ Πεισηνοριῖδας·
 "Ἀγρεῖθ', αἱ μὲν δῶμα κορήσατε ποιπνύσασαι,
 ῥάσσατέ τ', ἐν τε θρόνοις εὐποιήτοισι τᾶπητας
 βάλλετε πορφυρέους· αἱ δὲ σπόγγοισι τραπέζας
 πᾶσας ἀμφιμάσασθε, καθήρατε δὲ κρητῆρας
 καὶ δέπα ἀμφικύπελλα τετυγμένα· ταῖ δὲ μεθ' ὕδωρ
 ἔρχεσθε κρήνηνδε, καὶ οἴσετε θᾶσσον ἰούσαι.
 οὐ γὰρ δὴν μνηστῆρες ἀπέσσονται μεγίροιο,
 ἀλλὰ μάλ' ἤρι νέονται, ἐπεὶ καὶ πᾶσιν ἑορτή."
 "Ὡς ἔφαθ', αἱ δ' ἄρα τῆς μάλα μὲν κλύον ἠδ' ἐπίθοιτο.
 αἱ μὲν εἰκόσι βῆσαν ἐπὶ κρήνην μελάννδρον,
 αἱ δ' αὐτοῦ κατὰ δώματ' ἐπισταμένως ποιέοντο.
 Ἔς δ' ἦλθον δρηστήρες Ἀχαιῶν. οἱ μὲν ἔπειτα
 εὐ καὶ ἐπισταμένως κέασαν ξύλα, ταῖ δὲ γυναῖκες
 ἦλθον ἀπὸ κρήνης· ἐπὶ δὲ σφισιν ἦλθε συβώτης
 τρεῖς σιάλους κατὰγων, οἳ ἔσαν μετὰ πᾶσιν ἄριστοι.

¹ δῶα κύνες; κύνες τέλει; cf. ll. 11; xvii. 62.

Then wise Eurycleia answered him: "In this matter, child, thou shouldest not blame her, who is without blame. He sat here and drank wine as long as he would, but for food he said he had no more hunger, for she asked him. But when he bethought him of rest and sleep, she bade the maidens strew his bed. But he, as one wholly wretched and hapless, would not sleep on a bed and under blankets, but on an undressed ox-hide and fleeces of sheep he slept in the fore-hall, and we flung over him a cloak."

So she spoke, and Telemachus went forth through the hall with his spear in his hand, and with him went two swift hounds. And he went his way to the place of assembly to join the company of the well-greaved Achaeans, but Eurycleia, the goodly lady, daughter of Ops, son of Pelsenor, called to her maidens, saying:

"Come, let some of you busily sweep the hall and sprinkle it, and throw on the shapely chairs coverlets of purple, and let others wipe all the tables with sponges and cleanse the mixing-bowls and the well-wrought double cups, and others still go to the spring for water and bring it quickly here. For the winners will not long be absent from the hall, but will return right early; for it is a feast-day for all men."

So she spoke, and they readily hearkened and obeyed. Twenty of them went to the spring of dark water, and the others busied themselves there in the house in skilful fashion.

Then in came the serving-men of the Achaeans, who thereafter split logs of wood well and skilfully; and the women came back from the spring. After them came the swineherd, driving three boars which were the best in all his herd. These he let be to

καὶ τοὺς μὲν ῥ' εἶασε καθ' ἕρκεα καλὰ νέμεσθαι,
αὐτὸς δ' αὐτ' Ὀδυσῆα προσηύδα μελιχίοισι· 165

"Ξεῖν', ἢ ἄρ τι σε μᾶλλον Ἀχαιοὶ εἰσορόωσιν,
ἢέ σ' ἀτιμάζουσι κατὰ μέγαρ', ὥς τὸ πάρος περ;"

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"Λὶ γὰρ δὴ, Εὐμαίε, θεοὶ τισαῖατο λῶβην,
ἦν οἷδ' ὑβρίζοντες ἀτάσθαλα μηχανόωνται 170
οἴκῳ ἐν ἀλλετρίῳ, οὐδ' αἰδοῖν μοῖραν ἔχουσιν."

"Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
ἀγχίμολον δέ σφ' ἦλθε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν.
αἶγας ἄγων αἶ πᾶσι μετέπρεπον αἰπολίοισι,
δεῖπνον μνηστήρεσσι. δὴ δ' ἄμ' ἔποντο νομῆες. 175
καὶ τὰς μὲν κατέδθησεν ὑπ' αἰθούσῃ ἐριδούπῳ,
αὐτὸς δ' αὐτ' Ὀδυσῆα προσηύδα κερτομίοισι·

"Ξεῖν', ἔτι καὶ νῦν ἐνθάδ' ἀνιήσεις κατὰ δῶμα
ἀνέρας αἰτίζων, ἀτὰρ οὐκ ἔξειςθαι θύραζε;
πάντως οὐκέτι νῶϊ διακρινέσθαι δέω 180
πρὶν χειρῶν γένεσασθαι, ἐπεὶ σὺ περ οὐ κατὰ κόσμον
αἰτίζεις· εἰσὶν δὲ καὶ ἄλλαι δαῖτες Ἀχαιῶν."

"Ὡς φάτο, τὸν δ' οὐ τι προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,
ἀλλ' ἀκέων κίνησε κῆρη, κακὰ βυσοδομεύων. 185

Τοῖσι δ' ἐπὶ τρίτος ἦλθε Φιλοίτιος, ἄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν,
βοῦν στείρον μνηστήρεσιν ἄγων καὶ πίονας αἶγας.
πορθμῆες δ' ἄρα τοὺς γε διήγαγον, οἳ τε καὶ ἄλλους
ἀνθρώπους πέμπουσιν, ὅτις σφέας εἰσαφίκεται.
καὶ τὰ μὲν εὖ κατέδθησεν ὑπ' αἰθούσῃ ἐριδούπῳ,
αὐτὸς δ' αὐτ' ἐρίεινε συβώτην ἄγχι παραστάς· 190

feed in the fair courts, but himself spoke to Odysseus with gentle words:

"Stranger, do the Achæans look on thee with any more regard, or do they dishonour thee in the halls as before?"

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Ah, Eumæus, I would that the gods might take vengeance on the outrage wherewith these men in wantonness devise wicked folly in another's house, and have no place for shame."

Thus they spoke to one another. And near to them came Melanthius the goatherd, leading she-goats that were the best in all the herds, to make a feast for the wooers, and two herdsmen followed with him. The goats he tethered beneath the echoing portico, and himself spoke to Odysseus with taunting words:

"Stranger, wilt thou even now still be a plague to us here in the hall, asking alms of men, and wilt thou not begone? 'Tis plain, methinks, that we two shall not part company till we taste one another's fists, for thy begging is in no wise decent. Also it is not here alone that there are feasts of the Achæans."

So he spoke, but Odysseus of many wiles made no answer, but he shook his head in silence, pondering evil in the deep of his heart.

Besides these a third man came, Philoetius, a leader of men, driving for the wooers a barren heifer and fat she-goats. These had been brought over from the mainland by ferrymen, who send other men, too, on their way, whosoever comes to them. The beasts he tethered carefully beneath the echoing portico, but himself came close to the swineherd and questioned him, saying:

“Τίς δὴ ὅδε ξεῖνος νέον εἰλήλουθε, σὺβῶτα,
 ἡμέτερον πρὸς δῶμα; τέων δ' ἐξ εὐχεται εἶναι
 ἀνδρῶν; ποῦ δέ νῦ οἱ γενεή καὶ πατρίς ἄρουρα;
 δῖος μορος, ἣ τε ἔοικε δέμας βασιλῆϊ ἄνακτι·
 ἀλλὰ θεοὶ δυνόωσι πολυπλάγκτους ἀνθρώπους,
 ὅππότε καὶ βασιλευσὶν ἐπικλώσωνται ὀϊζύν.”

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Ἡ καὶ δεξιτερῇ δειδίσκετο χειρὶ παραστάς,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Χαῖρε, πάτερ ὦ ξεῖνε· γένοιτό τοι ἔς περ ὀπίσσω
 ὄλβος· ἀτὰρ μὲν νῦν γε κακοῖς ἔχειαι πολέεσσι.
 Ζεὺ πάτερ, οὗ τις σείῃ θεῶν ὀλοώτερος ἄλλος·
 οὐκ ἐλεαίρεις ὄνδρας, ἐπὴν δὴ γείνεται αὐτός,
 μισγέμεναι κακότητι καὶ ἄλγεσι λευγαλέοισιν.
 ἴδιον, ὥς ἐνόησα, δεδάκρυνται δέ μοι ὄσσε
 μνησαμένῳ Ὀδυσῆος, ἐπεὶ καὶ κείνον ὄλω
 τοιάδε λαίφε' ἔχοντα κατ' ἀνθρώπους ἀλάλησθαι,
 εἴ που ἔτι ζῶει καὶ ὄρᾳ φάος ἡελίοιο.

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εἰ δ' ἤδη τέθνηκε καὶ εἰν' Ἀἴδαο δόμοισιν,
 ὦ μοι ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀμύμονος, ὅς μ' ἐπὶ βοροῖν
 εἶσ' ἔτι τυτθὸν ἔοντα Κεφαλλήνων ἐνὶ δήμῳ.
 νῦν δ' αἱ μὲν γίνονται ἀθέσφατοι, οὐδέ κεν ἄλλους
 ἀνδρὶ γ' ὑποσταχίοιτο βοῶν γένος εὐρυμετώπων·
 τὰς δ' ἄλλοι με κέλονται ἀγνέμεναί σφισιν αὐτοῖς
 ἔδμεναι· οὐδέ τι παιδὸς ἐνὶ μεγάροισι ἀλέγουσιν,
 οὐδ' ὅπιδά τρομέουσι θεῶν· μεμῶασι γὰρ ἤδη
 κτήματα δῖοςσασθαι δὴν οἰχομένοιο ἄνακτος.
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ τόδε θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλοισι

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"Who is this stranger, swineherd, who has nowly come to our house? From what men does he declare himself to be sprung? Where are his kinsmen and his native fields? Hapless man! Yet truly in form he is like a royal prince; howbeit the gods bring to misery far-wandering men, whenever they spin for them the threads of trouble, even though they be kings."

Therewith he drew near to Odysseus, and stretching forth his right hand in greeting, spoke and addressed him with winged words:

"Hail, Sir stranger; may happy fortune be thine in time to come, though now thou art the thrall of many sorrows! Father Zeus, no other god is more baneful than thou; thou hast no pity on men when thou hast thyself given them birth, but bringest them into misery and wretched pains. The sweat broke out on me when I marked the man, and my eyes are full of tears as I think of Odysseus; for he, too, I ween, is clothed in such rags and is a wanderer among men, if indeed he still lives and beholds the light of the sun. But if he is already dead and in the house of Hades, then woe is me for blameless Odysseus, who set me over his cattle, when I was yet a boy, in the land of the Cephallenians. And now these wax past counting; in no other wise could the breed of broad-browed cattle yield better increase¹ for a mortal man. But strangers bid me drive these now for themselves to eat, and they care nothing for the son in the house, nor do they tremble at the wrath of the gods, for they are eager now to divide among themselves the possessions of our lord that has long been gone. Now, as for myself, the

¹ The Greek word refers properly to ripening grain.

πόλλ' ἐπιδινεύεται· μάλα μὲν κακὸν υἱὸς ἰόντος
 ἄλλων δῆμον ἰέσθαι ἰόντ' αὐτῇσι βόεσσιν,
 ἄνδρας ἐς ἄλλοδαπούς· τὸ δὲ ρίγιον, αἶθι μένοντα 220
 βουσὶν ἐπ' ἄλλοτρίῃσι καθήμενον ἄλγεα πάσχειν.
 καὶ κεν δὴ πάλαι ἄλλον ὑπερμενέων βασιλῆων
 ἔξικόμην φεύγων, ἐπεὶ οὐκέτ' ἀνεκτὰ πέλονται·
 ἀλλ' ἐτι τὸν δῦστηνον ὀλομαι, εἴ ποθεν ἐλθὼν
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων σκέδασιν κατὰ δώματα θείη." 225

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Βουκόλ', ἐπεὶ οὔτε κακῷ οὔτ' ἄφρονι φωτὶ ἔοικας,
 γιγνώσκω δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς ὃ τοι πινυτή φρένας ἔκει,
 τοῦνεκά τοι ἔρέω καὶ ἐπὶ μέγαν ὄρκον ὁμοῦμαι·
 ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς πρῶτα θεῶν ξενίῃ τε τράπεζα 230
 ἰστίῃ τ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀμύμονος, ἣν ἀφικάνω,
 ἢ σέθεν ἐνθάδ' ἰόντος ἐλευσεται οἴκαδ' Ὀδυσσεύς·
 σοῖσιν δ' ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἐπὶ ὄψεται, αἶ κ' ἐθέλησθα,
 κτεινομένους μνηστήρας, οἳ ἐνθάδε κοιρανέουσιν."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε βοῶν ἐπιβουκόλος ἀνὴρ· 235
 "Αἶ γὰρ τοῦτο, ξεῖνε, ἔπος τελέσεις Κρονίων·
 γκοίης χ' οἷη ἐμὴ δύναμις καὶ χεῖρες ἔπονται."

ὣς δ' αὐτως Εὐμαιοὺς ἐπεύξατο πᾶσι θεοῖσι
 νοστήσας Ὀδυσῆα πολύφρονα δνδε δόμονδε.

ὣς οἳ μὲν ταιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον, 240
 μνηστήρας δ' ἄρα Τηλεμάχῳ θάνατόν τε μόρον τε
 ἡρτυον· αὐτόρ ὁ τοῖσιν ἀριστερὸς ἦλυθεν ὄρνις,
 αἰετὸς ὑψιπέτης, ἔχε δὲ τρήρωνα πέλειαν.
 τοῖσιν δ' Ἀμφίνομος ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·

heart in my breast keeps revolving this matter: a very evil thing it is, while the son lives, to depart along with my cattle and go to a land of strangers, even to an alien folk; but this is worse still, to remain here and suffer woes in charge of cattle that are given over to others. Aye, verily, long ago would I have fled and come to some other of the proud kings, for now things are no more to be borne; but still I think of that hapless one, if perchance he might come back I know not whence, and make a scattering of the wooers in his house."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Netherd, since thou seemest to be neither an evil man nor a witless, and I see for myself that thou hast gotten an understanding heart, therefore will I speak out and swear a great oath to confirm my words. Now be my witness Zeus above all gods, and this hospitable board, and the hearth of noble Odysseus to which I am come, that verily while thou art here Odysseus shall come home, and thou shalt see with thine eyes, if thou wilt, the slaying of the wooers, who lord it here."

Then the herdsman of the cattle answered him: "Ah, stranger, I would that the son of Cronos might fulfil this word of thine! Then shouldest thou know what manner of might is mine, and how my hands obey."

And even in like manner did Eumæus pray to all the gods that wise Odysseus might come back to his own home.

Thus they spoke to one another, but the wooers meanwhile were plotting death and fate for Telemachus; howbeit there came to them a bird on their left, an eagle of lofty flight, clutching a timid dove. Then Amphinomus spoke in their assembly, and said:

“ὦ φίλοι, οὐχ ἡμῖν συνθεύσεται ἤδε γε βουλή, 245
Τηλεμάχοιο φόβος· ἀλλὰ μνησώμεθα δαιτός.”

“Ὡς ἔφατ’ Ἀμφίνομος, τοῖσιν δ’ ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος.
ἐλθόντες δ’ ἐς δῶματ’ Ὀδυσσῆος θελοῖο
χλαῖνας μὲν κατέθεντο κατὰ κλισμούς τε θρόνους τε,
οἱ δ’ ἱέρεον δις μεγάλους καὶ πύονας αἶγας, 250
ἱρεον δὲ σύας σιάλουνε καὶ βοὴν ἀγελαίην·
σπλῆγχνα δ’ ἤρ’ ὀπτήσαντες ἐνώμων, ἐν δὲ τε οἶνον
κρητῆρσιν κερώοντο· κύπελλα δὲ νεῖμε συβώτης.
σίτον δὲ σφ’ ἐπένειμε Φιλοίτιος, βρῆχμος ἀνδρῶν,
καλοῖς ἐν κανέοισιν, ἐφροχόει δὲ Μελανθεύς. 255
οἱ δ’ ἐπ’ ὄνειαθ’ ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.

Τηλέμαχος δ’ Ὀδυσῆα καθίδρυε, κέρδεα νομῶν,
ἐντὸς εὖσταθὲος μεγάρου, παρὰ λαίῳον οὐδόν,
δίφρον ἀεικῆλιον καταθεῖς ὀλίγην τε τράπεζαν·
παρ δ’ ἐτίθει σπλάγγων μοίρας, ἐν δ’ οἶνον ἔχευεν 260
ἐν δέκαί χρυσέφ, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·

“Ἐνταυθοῖ νῦν ἦσο μετ’ ἀνδράσιν οἶνοποτάζων·
κερτορίαὶ δέ τοι αὐτὸς ἐγὼ καὶ χεῖρας ἀφέξω
πάντων μνηστήρων, ἐπεὶ οὐ τοι δῆμὸς ἐστίν
οἶκος ὁδ’, ἀλλ’ Ὀδυσῆος, ἐμοὶ δ’ ἐκτῆσατο κείνος. 265
ὑμεῖς δέ, μνηστῆρες, ἐπίσχετε θυμὸν ἐνιπῆς
καὶ χειρῶν, ἵνα μὴ τις ἔρις καὶ νεῖκος ὀρηται.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ’, οἱ δ’ ἄρα πάντες ὁδᾶξ ἐν χεῖλεσι φύντες
Τηλέμαχον θαύμαζον, δ’ ἄρ’ ἄρ’ ἀγόρευε.
τοῖσιν δ’ Ἀντίνοος μετέφη, Εὐπείθεος υἱός· 270

“Καὶ χαλεπὸν περ ἔοντα δεχώμεθα μῦθον, Ἀχαιοί,
Τηλεμάχον· μάλα δ’ ἡμῖν ἀπειλήσας ἀγορεύει.

"Friends, this plan of ours will not run to our liking, even the slaying of Telemachus; nay, let us bethink us of the feast."

So spoke Amphinomus, and his word was pleasing to them. Then, going into the house of godlike Odysseus, they laid their cloaks on the chairs and high seats, and men fell to slaying great sheep and fat goats, aye, and fatted swine, and the heifer of the herd. Then they roasted the entrails and served them out, and mixed wine in the bowls, and the swineherd handed out the cups. And Philoetius, a leader of men, handed them bread in a beautiful basket, and Melanthius poured them wine. So they put forth their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them.

But Telemachus, with crafty thought, made Odysseus sit within the well-built hall by the threshold of stone, and placed for him a mean stool and a little table. Beside him he set portions of the entrails and poured wine in a cup of gold, and said to him:

"Sit down here among the lords and drink thy wine, and the revillings and blows of all the wooers will I myself ward from thee; for this is no public resort, but the house of Odysseus, and it was for me that he won it. And for your part, ye wooers, refrain your minds from rebukes and blows, that no strife or quarrel may arise."

So he spoke, and they all bit their lips and marvelled at Telemachus for that he spoke boldly; and Antinous, son of Eupelthes, spoke among them, saying:

"Hard though it be, Achaeans, let us accept the word of Telemachus, though boldly he threatens

οὐ γὰρ Ζεὺς ἔλασε Κρονίων τῷ κέ μιν ἤδη
παύσαμεν ἐν μεγάροισι, λυγὺν περ ἶόντ' ἀγορητήν."

"Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀρτίνοος ὃ δ' ἄρ' οὐκ ἐμπάζετο μύθων, πρὶν
κῆρυκες δ' ἀνὰ ὕστνυ θεῶν ἱερὴν ἑκατόμβην
ἶγγον τοὶ δ' ἀγέροντο κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ
ἄλσος ὑπο σκιερὸν ἑκατηβόλου Ἀπόλλωνος.

Οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ ὤπτησαν κρῖ ὑπέρτερα καὶ ἐρύσαντο,
μοῖρας δασσάμενοι δαίνυντ' ἐρικυδέα δαῖτα·
πάρ δ' ἄρ' Ὀδυσσῆϊ μοῖραν θέσαν οἳ ποτόντο
ἴσῃν, ὥς αὐτοὶ περ ἐλάγχχανον ὥς γὰρ ἀνώγει
Τηλέμαχος, φίλος υἱὸς Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο.

Μνηστήρας δ' οὐ πάμπαν ἀγῆνορας εἶα Ἀθήνη
λώβης ἰσχεσθαι θυμαλγέος, ὅφρ' ἔτι μᾶλλον
δύη ἄχος κραδίην Λαερτιάδην Ὀδυσῆα.

ἦν δέ τις ἐν μνηστήρσιν ἀνὴρ ἀθεμίστια εἰδώς,
Κτήσιππος δ' ὄνομ' ἔσκε, Σάμῃ δ' ἐν οἰκίᾳ ναῖεν
ὃς δὴ τοὶ κτεάτεσσι πεποιθὼς θεσπεσίοισι¹
μνάσκετ' Ὀδυσσῆος δὴν οἰχομένοιο δύμαρτα.

ὃς βα τότε μνηστήρσιν ὑπερφιάλοισι μετηύδα·
"Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστήρες ἀγῆνορες, ὅφρα τι εἴπω·
μοῖραν μὲν δὴ ξείνος ἔχει πάλαι, ὥς ἐπέοικεν,
ἴσῃν οὐ γὰρ καλὸν ἀτέμβειν οὐδὲ εἰκασιν
ξείνους Τηλεμάχου, ὃς κεν τάδε δῶμαθ' ἵκηται.

ἄλλ' ἄγε οἱ καὶ ἐγὼ δῶ ξείνιον, ὅφρα καὶ αὐτὸς
ἡὲ λοετροχόφῃ δῶν γέρας ἡέ τῳ ἄλλῳ
ἐμῶων, οἳ κατὰ δῶματ' Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο."

"Ὡς εἰπὼν ἔρριψε βοῦς πόδα χειρὶ παχείῃ.

¹ θεσπεσίοισι : πατρὶς ἐπίο.

us in his speech. For Zeus, son of Cronos, did not suffer it, else would we ere now have silenced him in the halls, clear-voiced talker though he is."

So spoke Antinous, but Telemachus paid no heed to his words. Meanwhile the heralds were leading through the city the holy hecatomb of the gods, and the long-haired Achæans gathered together beneath a shady grove of Apollo, the archer-god.

But when they had roasted the outer flesh and drawn it off the spits, they divided the portions and feasted a glorious feast. And by Odysseus those who served set a portion equal to that which they received themselves, for so Telemachus commanded, the dear son of divine Odysseus.

But the proud wooers Athene would in no wise suffer to abstain from bitter outrage, that pain might sink yet deeper into the heart of Odysseus, son of Laertes. There was among the wooers a man with his heart set on lawlessness—Ctesippus was his name, and in Samè was his dwelling—who, trusting forsooth in his boundless wealth, wooed the wife of Odysseus, that had long been gone. He it was who now spoke among the haughty wooers:

"Hear me, ye proud wooers, that I may say somewhat. A portion has the stranger long had, an equal portion, as is meet; for it is not well nor just to rob of their due the guests of Telemachus, whosoever he be that comes to this house. Nay, come, I too will give him a stranger's-gift, that he in turn may give a present either to the bath-woman or to some other of the slaves who are in the house of godlike Odysseus."

So saying, he hurled with strong hand the hoof of

κείμενον ἐκ κανέοιο λαβίων· ὁ δ' ἄλειατ' Ὀδυσσεὺς 300
 ἦκα παρακλίνας κεφαλὴν, μίδῃσεν δὲ θυμῷ
 σαρδάνιον μάλα τοῖον· ὁ δ' εὐδμητον βάλε τοῖχον.
 Κτήσιππον δ' ἄρα Τηλέμαχος ἠνίπαπε μύθε·

“Κτήσιππ', ἦ μάλα τοι τῷδε κέρδιον ἐπλετο θυμῷ·
 οὐκ ἔβαλες τὸν ξεῖνον· ἄλειατο γὰρ βέλος αὐτός. 303
 ἦ γὰρ κέν σε μέσον βάλλον ἔγχει ὀξυόεντι,
 καὶ κέ τοι ἀντὶ γάμοιο πατήρ τάφον ἀμφεπονεῖτο
 ἐνθάδε. τῷ μὴ τίς μοι ἀεικέλας ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
 φαίνεται· ἦδ' ἄρ' νοέω καὶ οἶδα ἔκαστα,
 ἔσθλα τε καὶ τὰ χέρη· πάρος δ' ἔτι νήπιος ἦα. 310
 ἀλλ' ἔμπης τάδε μὲν καὶ τετλάμεν εἰσορόωντες,
 μήλων σφαζομένων οἶνοιο τε πινομένοιο
 καὶ σίτου χαλεπὸν γὰρ ἐρυκακίειν ἕνα πολλούς.
 ἀλλ' αἶε μῆκετι μοι κακὰ ῥέζετε δυσμετέοντες·
 εἰ δ' ἦδ' ἄρ' αὐτὸν κτείνειν μεγαλύνετε χαλκῷ, 315
 καὶ κε τὸ βουλομένην, καὶ κεν πολὺ κέρδιον εἴη
 τεθνάναι ἢ τάδε γ' αἰὲν ἀεικέα ἔργ' ὀράσθαι,
 ξείνους τε στυφελιζομένους δμῶας τε γυναῖκας
 ῥυστάζοντας ἀεικέλως κατὰ δώματα καλά.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ· 320
 ὁψὲ δὲ δὴ μετέειπε Δαμαστορίδης Ἀγέλαος·

“ὦ φίλοι, οὐκ ἂν δὴ τις ἐπὶ ῥηθέντι δικαίῳ
 ἀντιβίοις ἐπέεσσι καθαπτόμενος χαλεπαῖνοι·
 μήτε τι τὸν ξεῖνον στυφελίζετε μήτε τιν' ἄλλον
 δμῶων, οἳ κατὰ δώματ' Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο. 325
 Τηλεμάχῳ δέ κε μῦθον ἐγὼ καὶ μητέρι φαίην
 ἦπιον, εἰ σφῶϊν κραδίη ἅδοι ἀμφοτέροισιν.

an ox, taking it up from the basket where it lay. But Odysseus avoided it with a quick turn of his head, and in his heart he smiled a right grin and bitter smile; and the ox's hoof struck the well-built wall. Then Telemachus rebuked Ctesippus, and said:

"Ctesippus, verily this thing fell out more to thy soul's profit. Thou didst not smite the stranger, for he himself avoided thy missile, else surely would I have struck thee through the middle with my sharp spear, and instead of a wedding feast thy father would have been busied with a funeral feast in this land. Wherefore let no man, I warn you, make a show of frowardness in my house; for now I mark and understand all things, the good and the evil, whereas heretofore I was but a child. But none the less we still endure to see these deeds, while sheep are slaughtered, and wine drunk, and bread consumed, for hard it is for one man to restrain many. Yet come, no longer work me harm of your evil wills. But if you are minded even now to slay me myself with the sword, even that would I choose, and it would be better far to die than continually to behold these shameful deeds, strangers mishandled and men dragging the handmaidens in shameful fashion through the fair hall."

So he spoke, and they were all hushed in silence, but at last there spoke among them Agelaus, son of Damastor:

"Friends, no man in answer to what has been fairly spoken would wax wroth and make reply with wrangling words. Abuse not any more the stranger nor any of the slaves that are in the house of divine Odysseus. But to Telemachus and his mother I would speak a gentle word, if perchance it may find

ὄφρα μὲν ὑμῖν θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νύχθ' ἰώλπει
 νοστήσειν Ὀδυσῆα πολύφροντα διδὸν δόμονδε,
 τόφρ' οὐ τις νέμεσις μενέμεν τ' ἦν ἰσχύμεναί τε 330
 μνηστῆρας κατὰ δῶματ', ἐπεὶ τόδε κέρδιον ἦεν,
 εἰ νόστησ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ ὑπότροπος ἔκετο δῶμα·
 νῦν δ' ἤδη τόδε δῆλον, ὃ τ' οὐκέτι νόστιμός ἐστιν.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε, σὴν τὰδε μητρὶ παρεζόμενος κατάλεξον,
 γήμασθ' ὅς τις ἄριστος ἀνὴρ καὶ πλεῖστα πόρῃσιν, 335
 ὄφρα σὺ μὲν χαίρων πατρώϊα πάντα νέμῃαι,
 ἔσθων καὶ πίνων, ἢ δ' ἄλλου δῶμα κομίζῃ."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤϊδα·
 "Οὐ μὰ Ζῆν', Ἀγέλαε, καὶ ἄλγεα πατρὸς ἐμοῖο,
 ὅς που τῇλ' Ἰθάκης ἢ ἐφθίται ἢ ἀλάληται, 340
 οὐ τι διατρίβω μητρὸς γάμον, ἀλλὰ κελεύω
 γήμασθ' ὥς κ' ἐθέλῃ, ποτὶ δ' ἄσπετα δῶρα δίδωμι.
 αἰδέομαι δ' ἀέκουσαν ἀπὸ μεγάρου διέσθαι
 μύθῳ ἀναγκαίῳ· μὴ τοῦτο θεὸς τελέσειεν."

Ὃς φάτο Τηλέμαχος· μνηστήρσιν δὲ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη
 ἄσβεστον γέλω ὥρσε, παρέπλαγξεν δὲ νόημα. 345
 οἱ δ' ἤδη γναθμοῖσι γελοίων ἰλλοτρίοισιν,
 αἰμοφόρυκτα δὲ δὴ κρέα ἤσθιον· ὅσας δ' ἄρα σφέων
 δακρυόφιν πίμπλαντο, γόον δ' ὤλετο θυμός.
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε Θεοκλύμενος θεοειδής· 350

"Ἄδειλοί, τί κακὸν τόδε πάσχετε; νυκτὶ μὲν ὑμῶν
 εἰλύεται κεφαλαί τε πρόσωπά τε νέρθε τε γούνα.

1 The portents here mentioned—both those narrated as caused by the intercession of Athena and those seen in the prophetic vision of Theoclymenus—are familiar from the

favour in the minds of both. So long as the hearts in your breasts had hope that wine Odysseus would return to his own house, so long there was no ground for blame that you waited, and restrained the wooers in your halls; for this was the better course, had Odysseus returned and come back to his house. But now this is plain, that he will return no more. Nay then, come, sit by thy mother and tell her this, namely that she must wed him whosoever is the best man, and who offers the most gifts; to the end that thou mayest enjoy in peace all the heritage of thy fathers, eating and drinking, and that she may keep the house of another."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Nay, by Zeus, Agelaus, and by the woes of my father, who somewhere far from Ithaca has perished or is wandering, in no wise do I delay my mother's marriage, but I bid her wed what man she will, and I offer besides gifts past counting. But I am ashamed to drive her forth from the hall against her will by a word of compulsion. May God never bring such a thing to pass."

So spoke Telemachus, but among the wooers Pallas Athene roused unquenchable laughter, and turned their wits awry. And now they laughed with alien lips, and all bedabbled with blood was the flesh they ate,¹ and their eyes were filled with tears and their spirits set on wailing. Then among them spoke godlike Theoclymenus:

"Ah, wretched men, what evil is this that you suffer? Shrouded in night are your heads and your faces and your knees beneath you; kindled is the

magas and folk-poetry of various peoples as indicative of death and destruction.

αἰμαγὴ δὲ δέδηκε, δεδάκρυνται δὲ παρειαί,
 αἵματι δ' ἑρράδαται τοῖχοι καλαὶ τε μεσόδμαι·
 εἰδῶλων δὲ πλείον πρόθυρον, πλεῖν δὲ καὶ αὐλή, 355
 ἱεμένων Τρεβόσδε ὑπὸ ζόφον ἥελιος δὲ
 οὐρανοῦ ἔξαπόλωλε, κακὴ δ' ἐπιδέδρομεν ἄχλύς."

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἡδὺ γέλασσαν.
 τοῖσιν δ' Εὐρύμαχος, Πολύβου πάϊς, ἦρχ' ἀγορεύειν·
 "Ἀφραίνει ξείνος νέον ἄλλοθεν εἰληλουθώς. 360
 ἰλλά μιν αἶψα, κέοι, δόμῳ ἐκπέμψασθε θύραζε
 εἰς ἀγορὴν ἔρχεσθαι, ἐπεὶ τὰδε νυκτὶ ἔλκει."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Θεοκλύμενος θεοειδής·
 "Εὐρύμαχ', οὐ τί σ' ἄνωγα ἐμοὶ πομπῆας ὀπάζειν·
 εἰσί μαι ὀφθαλμοὶ τε καὶ οὐατα καὶ πόδες ἄμφω 365
 καὶ νόος ἐν στήθεσσι τετυγμένος οὐδὲν ἀεικής.
 τοῖς ἐξεῖμι θύραζε, ἐπεὶ νοέω κακὸν ὕμῃν
 ἐρχόμενον, τὸ κεν οὐ τις ὑπεκφύγοι οὐδ' ἀλέαιτο
 μνηστήρων, οἳ δῶμα κάτ' ἀντιθέου Ὀδυσῆος
 ἀνέρας ὑβρίζοντες ἀτίσθαλα μηχανάσθε." 370

"Ὡς εἰπὼν ἐξῆλθε δόμων εὐ ναιεταόντων,
 ἵκετο δ' ἐς Πείραιον, ὃ μιν πρόφρων ὑπέδεκτο.
 μνηστήρες δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐς ἀλλήλους ὀρόωντες
 Τηλέμαχον ἐρέθιζον, ἐπὶ ξείνοισι γελῶντες·
 ὦδε δὲ τις εἶπεσκε νέων ὑπερφηροέωντων 375

"Τηλέμαχ', οὐ τις σείο κακοξεινώτερος ἄλλος·
 οἶον μὲν τινα τοῦτον ἔχεις ἐπίμαστον ἀλήτην,
 σίτου καὶ οἴνου κεχρημένον, οὐδέ τι ἔργων
 ἔμπαιον οὐδέ βίης, ἀλλ' αὐτῶς ἄχθος ἀρούρης.
 ἄλλος δ' αὐτὲ τις οὔτος ἀνέστη μαντεύεσθαι. 380

sound of wailing, bathed in tears are your cheeks, and sprinkled with blood are the walls and the fair rafters. And full of ghosts is the porch and full the court, of ghosts that hasten down to Erebus beneath the darkness, and the sun has perished out of heaven and an evil mist hovers over all."

So he spoke, but they all laughed merrily at him. And among them Eurymachus, son of Polybus, was the first to speak:

"Mad is the stranger that has newly come from abroad. Quick, ye youths, convey him forth out of doors to go his way to the place of assembly, since here he finds it like night."

Then godlike Theoclymenus answered him: "Eurymachus, in no wise do I bid thee give me guides for my way. I have eyes and ears and my two feet, and a mind in my breast that is in no wise meanly fashioned. With these will I go forth out of doors, for I mark evil coming upon you which not one of the wooers may escape or avoid, of all you who in the house of godlike Odysseus insult men and devise wicked folly."

So saying, he went forth from the stately halls and came to Piræus, who received him with a ready heart. But all the wooers, looking at one another, sought to provoke Telemachus by laughing at his guests. And thus would one of the proud youths speak:

"Telemachus, no man is more unlucky in his guests than thou, seeing that thou keepest such a filthy vagabond as this man here, always wanting bread and wine, and skilled neither in the works of peace nor those of war, but a mere burden of the earth. And this other fellow again stood up to

ἀλλ' εἴ μοί τι πίθοιο, τό κεν πολὺ κέρδιον εἶη
τοῖς ξείνοισιν ἐν νηὶ πολυκλήϊδι βαλόντες
ἐς Σικελοὺς πέμψωμεν, ὅθεν κέ τοι ἄξιον ἄλφειν."¹

Ἦς ἔφασαν μνηστήρες· ὁ δ' οὐκ ἐμπάζετο μύθων,
· ἀλλ' ἀέων πατέρα προσεδέρετο, δέγμενος αἰεὶ, 383
ὅππότε δὴ μνηστήρσιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφήσει.

Ἢ δὲ κατ' ἀντηστὶν θεμένη περικαλλέα εἰφρον
κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρων Πηνελόπεια,
ἀνδρῶν ἐν μεγάροισιν ἑκάστου μῦθον ἄκουεν.
δεῖπνον μὲν γάρ τοί γε γελοῖωντες τετύκοντο 390
ἡδύ τε καὶ μενοεικές, ἐπεὶ μάλα πόλλ' ἰέρευσαν·
δόρπου δ' οὐκ ἄν πως ἀχαρίστερον ἄλλο γένοιτο,
οἶδ' ὃν δὴ τάχ' ἐμελλε θεὰ καὶ καρτερὸς ἀνὴρ
θυσέμεναι· πρότεροι γὰρ ἀεικέα μηχανόωντο.

¹ ἄλφειν Bekker: ἄλφει. MSS.

prophesy. Nay, if thou wouldst hearken to me it would be better far: let us fling these strangers on board a benched ship, and send them to the Sicilians, whence they would bring¹ thee in a sitting price."

So spake the wooers, but he paid no heed to their words. Nay, in silence he watched his father, ever waiting until he should put forth his hands upon the shameless wooers.

But the daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, had set her beautiful chair over against them, and heard the words of each man in the hall. For they had made ready their meal in the midst of their laughing, a sweet meal, and one to satisfy the heart, for they had slain many beasts. But never could meal have been more graceless than a supper such as a goddess and a mighty man were soon to set before them. For unprovoked they were contriving deeds of shame.

¹ ἄλφειν (i.e. ἄλφειν) is a conjecture of Bekker's; the plural verb is demanded by the sense. Others change τοῖς ἑσπερίαις in line 382 to τοῖς ἑσπερίαις. It seems impossible to assume "the sale" as subject to ἄλφειν.

Τῇ δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,
 κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ,
 τόξον μνηστήρισσι θέμεν πολίων τε σίδηρον
 ἐν μεγάροις Ὀδυσῆος, ἀέθλια καὶ φόνου ἀρχήν.
 κλίμακα δ' ὑψηλὴν προσεβήσετο οἷο δόμοιο,
 εἴλετο δὲ κληῖδ' εὐκαμπέα χειρὶ παχείῃ
 καλὴν χαλκείην¹ κώπη δ' ἐλέφαντος ἐπῆεν.
 βῆ δ' ἱμεναι θάλαμόνδε σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξὶν
 ἔσχατον· ἔνθα δὲ οἱ κειμήλια κεῖτο ἄνακτος,
 χαλκός τε χρυσός τε πολύκμητός τε σίδηρος.
 ἔνθα δὲ τόξον κεῖτο παλίντονον ἠδὲ φαρέτρην
 ἰοδόκος, πολλοὶ δ' ἔνεσαν στονόεντες ὀϊστοί,
 δῶρα τὰ οἱ ξεῖνος Λακεδαιμόνι δῶκε τυχήσας
 Ἴφίτος Κύρυτιδης, ἐπιείκελος ἀθανάτοισι.
 τῶ δ' ἐν Μεσσήνῃ ξυμβλήτην ἀλλήλοισιν
 οἴκῳ ἐν Ὀρτιλόχοιο δαΐφρονος. ἦ τοι Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ἦλθε μετὰ χρεῖος, τό βῆ οἱ πᾶς δῆμος ὀφελλε·
 μῆλα γὰρ ἔξ Ἰθάκης Μεσσήνιοι ἄνδρες ἄειραν
 νηυσὶ πολυκλήσις τριηκόσι' ἠδὲ νομῆας.
 τῶν ἔνεκ' ἐξεσίην πολλὴν ὁδὸν ἦλθεν Ὀδυσσεὺς
 παιδινὸς ἑὼν· πρὸ γὰρ ἦκε πατὴρ ἄλλοι τε γέροντες.
 Ἴφίτος αὖθ' ἵππους διζήμενος, αἷ οἱ δλοντο
 ἑξώδεκα θήλειαι, ὑπὸ δ' ἡμίονοι ταλαεργοί·

¹ χαλκείαν: χρυσείαν.

BOOK XXI

BUT the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, put it into the heart of the daughter of Iearius, wise Penelope, to set before the wooers in the halls of Odysseus the bow and the gray iron, to be a contest and the beginning of death. She climbed the high stairway to her chamber, and took the bent key in her strong hand—a goodly key of bronze, and on it was a handle of ivory. And she went her way with her handmaidens to a store-room, far remote, where lay the treasures of her lord, bronze and gold and iron, wrought with toil. And there lay the back-bent bow and the quiver that held the arrows, and many arrows were in it; fraught with groanings—gifts which a friend of Odysseus had given him when he met him once in Lacedaemon, even Iphitus, son of Eurytus, a man like unto the immortals. They two had met one another in Messene in the house of wise Ortilochus. Odysseus verily had come to collect a debt which the whole people owed him, for the men of Messene had lifted from Ithaca in their benched ships three hundred sheep and the shepherds with them. It was on an embassy in quest of these that Odysseus had come a far journey, while he was but a youth; for his father and the other elders had sent him forth. And Iphitus, on his part, had come in search of twelve brood mares, which he had lost, with sturdy mules at the teat; but to him

αἶ δ' ἤ οἱ καὶ ἔπειτα φόνος καὶ μοῖρα γέγοντο,
 ἐπεὶ δὴ Διὸς υἱὸν ἀφίκετο καρτερόθυμον, 23
 φῶθ' Ἡρακλῆα, μεγάλων ἐπίστορα ἔργων,
 ὅς μιν ξείνον ἰόντα κατέκτανεν ᾧ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,
 σχέτλιος, οὐδὲ θεῶν ὕπιν ἤέξασατ' οὐδὲ τράπεζαν,
 τὴν ἣν οἱ παρέθηκεν· ἔπειτα δὲ πέφικε καὶ αὐτόν, 30
 ἵππους δ' αὐτὸς ἔχε κρατερῶνυχας ἐν μεγάροισι.
 τὰς ἐρέων Ὀδυσῇ συνήντετο, δῶκε δὲ τόξον,
 τὸ πρὶν μὲν ῥ' ἐφόρει μέγας Εὐρυτος, αὐτὰρ ὁ παιδὶ
 κάλλιπ' ἀποθνήσκων ἐν δώμασιν ὑψηλοῖσι.
 τῷ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ξίφος ὀξὺ καὶ ἄλκιμον ἔγχος ἔδωκεν, 33
 ἀρχὴν ξεινοσύνης προσκηδέος· οὐδὲ τραπέζῃ
 γνώτην ἀλλήλων· πρὶν γὰρ Διὸς υἱὸς ἐπεφίεν
 Ἴφιτον Εὐρυτιδῆν, ἐπισείκελον ἀθανάτοισιν,
 ὅς οἱ τόξον ἔδωκε. τὸ δ' οὐ ποτε δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ἐρχόμενος πόλεμόνδε μελαινάων ἐπὶ νηῶν
 ἤρεϊτ', ἀλλ' αὐτοῦ μνήμα ξείνοιο φίλοιο 40
 κέσκετ'¹ ἐνὶ μεγάροισι, φόρει δέ μιν ἥς ἐπὶ γαίης.
 Ἢ δ' ὅτε δὴ θάλαμον τὸν ἀφίκετο διὰ γυναικῶν
 οὐδὲν τε δρῦνον προσεβήσето, τὸν ποτε τέκτων
 ξέσσειν ἐπισταμένως καὶ ἐπὶ στάθμην ἵθυεν,
 ἐν δὲ σταθμοὺς ἄρσε, θύρας δ' ἐπέθηκε φαεινάς, 45
 αὐτίκ' ἄρ' ἦ γ' ἱμάντα θεῶς ἀπέλυσσε κορώνης,
 ἐν δὲ κληῖδ' ἤκε, θυρέων δ' ἀνέκοπτεν ὀχῆας

¹ κέσκετ' : θέσσειτ'.

¹ Others render "was an accomplice in monstrous deeds."

² On the inside of the door was a bar or bolt to which a thong was attached. This thong passed through a hole in

thereafter did they bring death and doom, when he came to the stout-hearted son of Zeus, the man Heracles, who well knew¹ deeds of daring; for Heracles slew him, his guest though he was, in his own house, ruthlessly, and had regard neither for the wrath of the gods nor for the table which he had set before him, but slew the man thereafter, and himself kept the stout-hoofed mares in his halls. It was while asking for these that Iphitus met Odysseus, and gave him the bow, which of old great Eurytus had been wont to bear, and had left at his death to his son in his lofty house. And to Iphitus Odysseus gave a sharp sword and a mighty spear, as the beginning of loving friendship; yet they never knew one another at the table, for ere that might be the son of Zeus had slain Iphitus, son of Eurytus, a man like unto the immortals, who gave Odysseus the bow. This bow goodly Odysseus, when going forth to war, would never take with him on the black ships, but it lay in his halls at home as a memorial of a dear friend, and he carried it in his own land.

Now when the fair lady had come to the store-room, and had stepped upon the threshold of oak, which of old the carpenter had skilfully planed and made straight to the line—thereon had he also fitted door-posts, and set on them bright doors—straightway she quickly loosed the thong² from the handle and thrust in the key, and with sure aim shot

the door, and, when the door was elowed from the outside, served as a means of drawing the bolt into its socket; the thong was then fastened to a hook. To open the door from without the thong was first unfastened, and then the bolt was forced back by the key, which presumably fitted the aperture with nicety; hence the phrase "with sure aim."

ἄντα τιτυσκομένη· τὰ δ' ἀνέβραχεν ἥντε ταῦρος
 βοσκόμενος λειμῶνι· τόσ' ἐβραχε καλὰ θύρετρα
 πληγέντα κληίδι, πετάσθησαν δέ οἱ ὦκα. 50
 ἥ δ' ἄρ' ἐφ' ὑψηλῆς σανίδος βῆ· ἐνθα ἐδ' ἡχοι
 ἔστασαν, ἐν δ' ἄρα τῇσι θυώδεα εἶματ' ἔκειτο.
 ἐνθεν ὀρεξαμένη ἀπὸ πασσάλου αἶνυτο τόξον
 αὐτῷ γωρυτῷ, ὅς οἱ περίκειτο φαεινός.
 ἰζομένη δέ κατ' αἶθι, φίλοις ἐπὶ γούνασι θεῖσα, 55
 κλαίει μῖλα λυγρῶς, ἐκ δ' ἤρει τόξον ἀνακτος.
 ἥ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τάρφθη πολυδακρύτοιο γόοιο,
 βῆ ῥ' ἱμεναι μέγαρόνδε μετὰ μνηστῆρας ἀγανούς
 τόξον ἔχουσ' ἐν χειρὶ παλίντονον ἠδὲ φαρέτρην
 ἰοδόκον· πολλοὶ δ' ἔκισαν στονόεντες ὀϊστοί. 60
 τῇ δ' ἄρ' ἄμ' ἀμφίπολοι φέρον ὄγκιον, ἐνθα σίδηρος
 κείτο πολὺς καὶ χαλκός, ἀέθλια τοῖο ἀνακτος.
 ἥ δ' ὅτε δὴ μνηστῆρας ἀφίκετο διὰ γυναικῶν,
 στή ῥα παρὰ σταθμὸν τέγεος πύκα ποιητοῖο,
 ἄντα παρειῶν σχομένη λιπαρὰ κρήδεμνα. 65
 ἀμφίπολος δ' ἄρα οἱ κενὴ ἐκάτερθε παρέστη.¹
 αὐτίκα δὲ μνηστῆρσι μετηῦδα καὶ φάτο μῦθον·
 "Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστῆρες ἀγήνορες, οἳ τόδε δῶμα
 ἐχράετ' ἐσθιέμεν καὶ πινέμεν ἑμμενὲς αἰεὶ
 ἄνδρες ἀποιχομένοιο πολὺν χρόνον· οὐδέ τιν' ἄλλην 70
 μῖθου ποιήσασθαι ἐπισχεσίην ἐδύνασθε,
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ ἱέμενοι γῆμαι θέσθαι τε γυναῖκα.
 ἄλλ' ἀγετε, μνηστῆρες, ἐπεὶ τόδ' φαίνεται ἀέθλον.
 θήσω γὰρ μέγα τόξον Ὀδυσσῆος θεῖοιο·
 ὅς δέ κε ῥήϊτατ' ἐντανύσῃ βίῳ ἐν παλάμῃσι
 καὶ διοίστεισσι πελέκεσσιν δυοκαίδεκα πάντων,
 τῷ κεν ἄμ' ἐσποίμην, νοσφισσαμένη τόδε δῶμα
 κουρίδιον, μάλα καλόν, ἐνίπλειον βιότοιο,
 τοῦ ποτὲ μεμνήσεσθαι ὀλομαι ἐν περ ὀνείρῳ." 75

¹ Line 66 (= xviii. 211) is omitted in some MSS.

back the bolts. And as a bull bellows when grazing in a meadow, even so bellowed the fair doors, smitten by the key; and quickly they flew open before her. Then she stepped upon the high floor, where the chests stood in which fragrant raiment was stored, and stretched out her hand from thence and took from its peg the bow together with the bright case which surrounded it. And there she sat down and laid the case upon her knees and wept aloud, and took out the bow of her lord. But when she had had her fill of tearful wailing, she went her way to the hall, to the company of the lordly wooers, bearing in her hands the back-bent bow and the quiver that held the arrows, and many arrows were in it, fraught with groanings. And by her side her maidens bore a chest, wherein lay abundance of iron and bronze, the battle-gear of her lord. Now when the fair lady reached the wooers, she stood by the door-post of the well-built hall, holding before her face her shining veil; and a faithful hand-maid stood on either side of her. Then straightway she spoke among the wooers, and said:

"Hear me, ye proud wooers, who have beset this house to eat and drink ever without end, since its master has long been gone, nor could you find any other plea to urge, save only as desiring to wed me and take me to wife. Nay, come now, ye wooers, since this is shewn to be your prize.¹ I will set before you the great bow of divine Odysseus, and whosoever shall most easily string the bow in his hands and shoot an arrow through all twelve axes, with him will I go, and forsake this house of my wedded life, a house most fair and filled with livelihood, which, methinks I shall ever remember even in my dreams."

¹ She means herself, not the bow; cf. 106.

ὣς φάτο, καὶ ῥ' Εὐμαιον ἀνάγει, δίον ὑφορβόν, 80
τόξον μνηστήρεσσι θέμεν πολίων τε σίδηρον.
δακρύσας δ' Εὐμαιος ἐδέξατο καὶ κατέθηκε·
κλαίῃ δὲ βουκόλος ἄλλοθ', ἐπεὶ ἶδε τόξον ἀνακτος.
Ἀντίνοος δ' ἐνένιπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

“Νῆπιοι ἀγροῖῶνται, ἔφημέρια φρονέοντες, 85
ἀ δειλῶ, τί τυ δάκρυ κατείβεται ἡδὲ γυναικὶ
θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι δρίνεται; ἢ τε καὶ ἄλλως
κεῖται ἐν ἄλγεσι θυμός, ἐπεὶ φίλον ὦλεσ' ἀκοίτην.
ἀλλ' ἀκέων δαίνυσθε καθήμενοι, ἢ θύραζε
κλαίετον ἐξελθόντες, κατ' αὐτόθι τόξα λιπόντες, 90
μνηστήρεσσι ἀέθλον ἀάατον· οὐ γὰρ οἶω
ῤηϊδίως τόδε τόξον εὖξοον ἐντανύεσθαι.
οὐ γάρ τις μέτα τοῖος ἀνὴρ ἐν τοῖσδεσι πᾶσιν
οἶος Ὀδυσσεὺς ἴσκειν· ἐγὼ δέ μιν αὐτὸς ὀπωπα,
καὶ γὰρ μνημῶν εἰμί, παῖς δ' ἔτι νῆπιος ἦα.” 95

ὣς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἄρα θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νῶλπει
νευρὴν ἐντανύσειν διοίστευσεν τε σιδήρου.
ἢ τοι ὀλοτοῦ γε πρῶτος γεύσεσθαι ἐμελλεν
ἐκ χειρῶν Ὀδυσῆος ἀμύμονος, δν τότ' ἀτίμα
ἦμενος ἐν μεγάροις, ἐπὶ δ' ὤρνευε πάντας ἑταίρους. 100

Τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειψ' ἱερὴ ἱς Τηλεμάχοιο·
“ὦ πόποι, ἦ μάλα με Ζεὺς ἄφρονα θῆκε Κρονίων·
μήτηρ μὲν μοι φησι φίλη, πινυτή περ ἰούσα,
ἄλλω ἅμ' ἐψέσθαι νοσφισσαμένη τόδε δῶμα·
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γελῶ καὶ τέρπομαι ἄφρονι θυμῷ. 105
ἀλλ' ἄγετε, μνηστῆρες, ἐπεὶ τόδε φαίνεται ἀέθλον,
οἷη νῦν οὐκ ἔστι γυνὴ κατ' Ἀχαιίδα γαίαν,
οὔτε Πύλου ἱερῆς οὔτ' Ἀργεὺς οὔτε Μυκῆνης·
οὔτ' αὐτῆς Ἰθάκης οὔτ' ἠπειροῖο μελαίνης·
καὶ δ' αὐτοὶ τόδε γ' ἴστε· τί με χρῆ μῆτερος αἵνου; 110

² Line 109 (cf. l. 97-8) is omitted in many MSS.

So she spoke, and bade Eumæus, the goodly swineherd, set for the wooers the bow and the grey iron. And, bursting into tears, Eumæus took them and laid them down, and in another place the neatherd wept, when he saw the bow of his lord. Then Antinous rebuked them, and spoke, and addressed them:

"Foolish boors, who mind only the things of the day! Wretched pair, why now do you shed tears, and trouble the soul in the breast of the lady, whose heart even as it is lies low in pain, seeing that she has lost her dear husband? Nay, sit and feast in silence, or else go forth and weep, and leave the bow here behind as a decisive¹ contest for the wooers; for not easily, methinks, is this polished bow to be strung. For there is no man among all these here such as Odysseus was, and I myself saw him. For I remember him, though I was still but a child."

So he spoke, but the heart in his breast hoped that he would string the bow and shoot an arrow through the iron. Yet verily he was to be the first to taste of an arrow from the hands of noble Odysseus, whom then he, as he sat in the halls, was dishonouring, and urging on all his comrades.

Then among them spoke the strong and mighty Telemachus: "Lo now, of a truth Zeus, son of Cronos, has made me witless. My dear mother, for all that she is wise, declares that she will follow another lord, forsaking this house; yet I laugh, and am glad with a witless mind. Come then, ye wooers, since this is shewn to be your prize, a lady, the like of whom is not now in the Achæan land, neither in sacred I'ylow, nor in Argos, nor in Mycene, nor yet in Ithaca itself, nor in the dark mainland. Nay, but of yourselves you know this—what need have I to praise my

¹ Others render "deadly" or "terrible"; but see Moore.

ἀλλ' ἄγε μὴ μύνησι παρέλκετε μῆδ' ἔτι τόξου
 ἐπὶ δὲν ἀποτρωπάσθε τανυστύος, δῖφρα ἴδωμεν.
 καὶ δέ κεν αὐτὸς ἐγὼ τοῦ τόξου πειρησαίμην·
 εἰ δέ κεν ἐντανύσω διοϊστεύσω τε σιδήρου,
 οὐ κέ μοι ἀχνημένῳ τάδε δῶματα πόντια μῆτηρ 115
 λείποι ἄμ' ἄλλω ἰοῦσ', δὲ ἐγὼ κατόπισθε λιποίμην
 οἷός τ' ἤδη πατρὸς ἀέθλια κάλ' ἀπ' αἰθέσθαι."

Ἡ καὶ ἀπ' ὥμοισιν χλαῖναν θέτο φοινικέσσας
 ὀρθὸς ἀναίξας, ἀπὸ δὲ ξίφος ὅξυ θέτ' ὤμων.
 πρῶτον μὲν πελίκεας στήσεν, διὰ τάφρον ὀρύξας 120
 πᾶσι μίαν μακρὴν, καὶ ἐπὶ στάθμην ἴθυνεν,
 ἀμφὶ δὲ γαῖαν ἔναξε· τάφος δ' ἔλε πάντας ἰδόντας,
 ὡς εὐκόσμως στήσας πάρος δ' οὐ πῶ ποτ' ὀπῶπει.
 στή δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν καὶ τόξου πειρήτιζε.
 τρεῖς μὲν μιν πολέμιζεν ἐρύσσεσθαι μενεαίνων, 125
 τρεῖς δὲ μεθήκε βίης, ἐπιελπόμενος τό γε θυμῷ,
 νευρὴν ἐντανύειν διοϊστεύσειν τε σιδήρου.
 καὶ νῦν καὶ δὴ β' ἐτάνυσσε βίην τὸ τέταρτον ἀνέλκων,
 ἀλλ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἀνένευε καὶ ἔσχεθεν ἰεμένον περ.
 τοῖς δ' αὐτοῖς μετέειπ' ἱερὴ ἱς Τηλεμάχοιο 130

"ὦ πόποι, ἦ καὶ ἔπειτα κακὸς τ' ἔσομαι καὶ ἄκευς,
 ἢ ἐνὶ νεώτερός εἰμι καὶ οὐ πῶ χερσὶ πέποιθα
 ἄνδρ' ἀπαμύνασθαι, ὅτε τις πρότερος χαλεπήνῃ.
 ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', οἳ περ ἐμεῖο βίην προφερέστεροί ἐστε,
 τόξου πειρήσασθε, καὶ ἐκτελέωμεν ἀελθον." 135

Ὡς εἰπὼν τόξον μὲν ἀπὸ ἔο θήκε χαμᾶζε,

mother? Come then, put not the matter aside with excuses; nor any more turn away too long from the drawing of the bow, that we may see the issue. Yea, and I would myself make trial of yon bow. If I shall string it and shoot an arrow through the iron, it will not vex me that my honoured mother should leave this house and go along with another, seeing that I should be left here able now to wield the goodly battle-gear of my father."

With this he flung the scarlet cloak from off his back, and sprang up erect; and he laid his sharp sword from off his shoulders. First then he set up the axes, when he had dug a trench, one long trench for all, and made it straight to the line, and about them he stamped in the earth. And amazement seized all who saw him, that he set them out so orderly, though before he had never seen them. Then he went and stood upon the threshold, and began to try the bow. Thrice he made it quiver in his eagerness to draw it, and thrice he relaxed his effort, though in his heart he hoped to string the bow and shoot an arrow through the iron. And now at the last he would haply have strung it in his might, as for the fourth time he sought to draw up the string, but Odysseus noddled in dissent, and checked him in his eagerness. Then the strong and mighty Telemachus spoke among them again:

"Out on it, even in days to come shall I be a coward and a weakling, or else I am too young, and have not yet trust in my might to defend me against a man, when one waxes wroth without a cause. But, come now, you that are mightier than I, make trial of the bow, and let us end the contest."

So saying, he set the bow from him on the ground,

κλίνας κολλητήσιν ἐϋξέστης σαΐδεσσιν,
 αἰτοῦ δ' ὠκύ βέλος καλῇ προσέκλινε κορῶνῃ,
 ἄψ δ' αὖτις κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετ' ἐπὶ θρόνου ἐνθεν ἀνέστη.
 Τοῖσιν δ' Ἀντίνοος μετέφη, Εὐπείθεος υἱός· 140
 "Ὅρνυσθ' ἐξείης ἐπιδέξια πάντες ἑταῖροι,
 ἀρξάμενοι τοῦ χώρου δθεν τέ περ οἶνοχοεῖει."
 "Ὡς ἔφατ' Ἀντίνοος, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπιήνδανε μῦθος.
 Λειώδης δὲ πρῶτος ὀνίστατο, Οἶνοπος υἱός,
 ὃ σφι θυοσκόος ἔσκε, παρὰ κρητῆρα δὲ καλὸν 145
 ἔξε μυχοίτατος αἰέν· ἀτασθαλαίαι δὲ οἱ οἶφ
 ἐχθραὶ ἔσαν, πᾶσιν δὲ νεμέσσα μνηστήρεσσιν·
 δεῖν ἄρα τότε πρῶτος τόξον λάβε καὶ βέλος ὠκύ.
 στή δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰὼν καὶ τόξου πειρήτιζεν,
 οὐδέ μιν ἐντάνυσσε· πρὶν γὰρ κάμε χεῖρας ἀνέλκων 150
 ὀτρίπτους ἀπαλάς· μετὰ δὲ μνηστήρσιν ἔειπεν·"
 "ὦ φίλοι, οὐ μὲν ἐγὼ τανύω, λαβέτω δὲ καὶ ἄλλος.
 πολλοὺς γὰρ τόδε τόξον ἀριστήης κεκαδήσει
 θυμοῦ καὶ ψυχῆς, ἐπεὶ ἢ πολὺ φέρτερόν ἐστι 155
 τεθνάμεν ἢ ζῶντας ἱμαρτεῖν, οὐθ' ἔνεκ' αἰεὶ
 ἐνθάδ' ὀμιλέομεν, ποτιδέγμενοι ἡματα πάντα.
 νῦν μὲν τις καὶ ἔλπετ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶν ἡδὲ μενοινᾷ
 γῆμαι Πηνελόπειαν, Ὀδυσσῆος παρὰκοῖτιν.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν τόξου πειρήσεται ἡδὲ ἴδεται, 160
 ἄλλην δὴ τιν' ἔπειτα Ἀχαιῶν εὐπέπλων
 μνῆσθω ἐδδοῖσιν διζήμενος· ἢ δὲ κ' ἔπειτα
 γῆμαιθ' ὅς κε πλείστα πόροι καὶ μόρσιμος ἔλθοι."
 "Ὡς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν καὶ ὑπὸ ἔο τόξον ἔθηκε,

leaning it against the jointed, polished door, and hard by he leaned the swift arrow against the fair bow-tip, and then sat down again on the seat from which he had risen.

Then Antinous, son of Eupetthes, spoke among them; "Rise up in order, all you of our company, from left to right, beginning from the place where the eupbearer pours the wine."

So spoke Antinous, and his word was pleasing to them. Then first arose Leiodes, son of Oenops, who was their soothsayer, and ever sat by the fair mixing-bowl in the innermost part of the hall; deeds of wanton folly were hateful to him alone, and he was full of indignation at all the wooers. He it was who now first took the bow and swift arrow, and he went and stood upon the threshold, and began to try the bow; but he could not string it. Ere that might be his hands grew weary, as he sought to draw up the string, his unworn delicate hands; and he spoke among the wooers:

"Friends, it is not I that shall string it; let another take it. For many princes shall this bow rob of spirit and of life, since verily it is better far to die than to live on and fail of that for the sake of which we ever gather here, waiting expectantly day after day. Now many a man even hopes in his heart and desires to wed Penelope, the wife of Odysseus; but when he shall have made trial of the bow; and seen the outcome, thereafter let him woo some other of the fair-robed Achaean women with his gifts, and seek to win her; then should Penelope wed him who offers most, and who comes as her fated lord."

So he spoke, and set the bow from him, leaning it

κλίνας κολλητήσιν ἑυξέστης σανίδεσσιν,
 αὐτοῦ δ' ὥκν' βέλος καλῇ προσέκλινε κορώνῃ, 165
 αἶψ' δ' αὖτις κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετ' ἐπὶ θρόνου ἔνθεν ἀνέστη.
 Ἀντίνοος δ' ἐνέειπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·
 "Λειῶδες, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων,
 δεινὸν τ' ἀργαλέον τε,—νεμεσώμαι δέ τ' ἀκούων—
 εἰ δὴ τοῦτό γε τόξον ἀριστήης κεκαθήσει 170
 θυμοῦ καὶ ψυχῆς, ἐπεὶ οὐ δύνασαι σὺ ταυύσσαι.
 οὐ γάρ τοί σέ γε τοῖον ἐγείνατο πότνια μήτηρ
 οἷόν τε ρυτῆρα βιοῦ τ' ἔμεναι καὶ οἴστων·
 ἀλλ' ἄλλοι ταυύουσι τάχα μνηστήρες ἀγαοί."

"Ὡς φάτο, καὶ ῥ' ἐκέλευσε Μελάνθιον, αἰπόλον αἰγῶν·
 "Ἄγρει δὴ, πῦρ κῆον ἐνὶ μεγάροισι, Μελανθεῦ, 170
 παρ δὲ τίθει δίφρον τε μέγαν καὶ κῶας ἐπ' αὐτοῦ,
 ἐκ δὲ στέατος ἐνείκε μέγαν τροχὸν ἔνδον ἑόντος,
 ὁφρα νέοι θάλποντες, ἐπιχρίοντες ἀλοιφῇ,
 τόξου πειρώμεσθα καὶ ἐκτελέωμεν ἀελθον." 180

"Ὡς φάθ', ὃ δ' αἶψ' ἀνέκαμε Μελάνθιος ἀκάματον πῦρ,
 παρ δὲ φέρων δίφρον θῆκεν καὶ κῶας ἐπ' αὐτοῦ,
 ἐκ δὲ στέατος ἐνείκε μέγαν τροχὸν ἔνδον ἑόντος·
 τῷ ῥα νέοι θάλποντες ἐπειρώντ'· οὐδ' ἐδύναντο
 ἐντανύσαι, πολλὸν δὲ βίης ἐπιδευέες ἦσαν. 185

Ἀντίνοος δ' ἔτ' ἐπεῖχε καὶ Εὐρύμαχος θεοειδής,
 ἄρχοι μνηστήρων· ἀρετῇ δ' ἔσαν ἔξοχ' ἀριστοί.
 τῷ δ' ἐξ οἴκου βῆσαν ὁμαρτήσαντες ἅμ' ἅμφω
 βουκόλος ἠδὲ συφορβὸς Ὀδυσσεύος θείοιο·
 ἐκ δ' αὐτὸς μετὰ τοῖς δόμου ἤλυθε διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς. 190
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐκτὸς θυρέων ἔσαν ἠδὲ καὶ αὐλῆς,
 φθελγόμενός σφε ἐπεσσι προσηύδα μειλιχίοισι·

against the jointed, polished door, and hard by he leaned the swift arrow against the fair bow-tip, and then sat down on the seat from which he had risen. But Antinous reboked him, and apoke, and addressed him: "Leiodes, what a word has escaped the barrier of thy teeth, a dread word and grievous! I am angered to hear it, if forsooth this bow is to rob princes of spirit and of life, because thou art not able to string it. For, I tell thee, thy honoured mother did not bear thee of such strength as to draw a bow and shoot arrowa; but others of the lordly wooers will soon string it."

So he spoke, and called to Melanthius, the goatherd: "Come now, light a fire in the hall, Melanthius; and set by it a great seat with a fleece upon it, and bring forth a great cake of the fat that is within, that we youths may warm the bow, and anoint it with fat, and so make trial of it, and end the contest."

So he spoke, and Melanthius straightway rekindled the unwearied fire, and brought and placed by it a great seat with a fleece upon it, and he brought forth a great cake of the fat that was within. Therewith the youths warmed the bow, and made trial of it, but they could not string it, for they were far lacking in strength.

Now Antinous was still persisting and godlike Eurymachus, leaders of the wooers, who were far the best in valiance; but those other two had gone forth both together from the hall, the neatherd and the swineherd of divine Odysseus; and after them Odysseus himself went forth from the house. But when they were now outside the gatea and the court, he spoke and addressed them with gentle words:

“Βουκόλε καὶ σύ, σφυροβέ, ἔπος τί κε μυθησαίμην,
 ἢ αὐτὸς κεύθῳ; φάσθαι δέ με θυμὸς ἀνώγει.
 ποῖα κ' εἴτ' Ὀδυσῆϊ ἀμυνέμεν, εἴ ποθεν ἔλθοι 195
 ὧδε μάλ' ἐξαπίνης καὶ τις θεὸς αὐτὸν ἐνείκας;
 ἦ κε μνηστῆρεςσιν ἀμύνοιτ' ἢ Ὀδυσῆϊ;
 εἵπαθ' ὅπως ὑμέας κραδίη θυμὸς τε καλεῖται.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε βοῶν ἐπιβουκόλος ἀνὴρ·
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, αἱ γὰρ τοῦτο τελευτήσεται ἐέλδωρ, 200
 ὥς ἔλθοι μὲν κείνος ἀνὴρ, ἀγάγοι δέ ἑ δαίμων·
 γνοίης χ' οἷη ἐμὴ δύναμις καὶ χεῖρες ἔπονται.”

Ὡς δ' αὖτως Εὐμαιοὶς ἐπένχετο πᾶσι θεοῖσι
 νοστήσαι Ὀδυσῆα πολύφρονα ὄνδε δόμανδε.

Λυτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ τῶν γε νόον νημερτέ' ἀνέγνω, 205
 ἐξαυτίς σφε ἐπεσσιν ἀμειβόμενος προσέειπεν·

“Ἐνδον μὲν δὴ δδ' αὐτὸς ἐγὼ, κακὰ πολλὰ μογίσσας
 ἤλυθον εἰκοστῇ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.

γινώσκω δ' ὥς σφῶϊν ἐλδομένοισιν ἰκάνω
 οἷοισι δμῶων τῶν δ' ἄλλων οὐ τευ ἄκουσα 210
 εὐξαμένου ἐμὲ αὐτίς ὑπὸ τροπον οἶκαδ' ἰκέσθαι.
 σφῶϊν δ', ὥς ἔσεται περ, ἀληθείην καταλέξω.

εἴ χ' ὑπ' ἔμαι γε θεὸς δαμύσῃ μνηστῆρας ἀγανούς,
 ἄξομαι ἀμφοτέροισι ἀλόχους καὶ κτήματ' ὀπίσσω
 οἰκία τ' ἐγγυὶς ἐμεῖο τετυγμένα· καὶ μοι ἔπειτα 215
 Τηλεμάχου ἱτάρῳ τε κασιγνήτῳ τε ἔσσεσθον.

εἰ δ' ἄγε δὴ, καὶ σῆμα ἀριφραδὲς ἄλλο τι δείξω,
 δόφρα μ' εὖ γνῶτον πιστωθῆτόν τ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ,
 οὐλήν, τήν ποτέ με σὺς ἤλασε λευκῷ ὀδόντι
 Παρηγόσωνδ' ἐλθόντα σὺν νιάσιν Ἀντολύκοιο.” 220

"Neatherd, and thou too swincherd, shall I tell you something or keep it to myself? Nay, my spirit bids me tell it. What manner of men would you be to defend Odysseus, if he should come from somewhere thus suddenly, and some god should bring him? Would you bear aid to the wooers or to Odysseus? Speak out as your heart and spirit bid you."

Then the herdsmen of the cattle answered him: "Father Zeus, oh that thou wouldest fulfil this wish! Grant that that man may come back, and that some god may guide him. Then shouldst thou know what manner of might is mine, and how my hands obey."

And even in like manner did Eumæus pray to all the gods that wise Odysseus might come back to his own home.

But when he knew with certainty the mind of these, he made answer, and spoke to them again, saying:

"At home now in truth am I here before you, my very self. After many grievous toils I am come in the twentieth year to my native land. And I know that by you two alone of all my thralls is my coming desired, but of the rest have I heard not one praying that I might come back again to my home. But to you two will I tell the truth, even as it shall be. If a god shall subdue the lurdly wooers unto me, I will bring you each a wife, and will give you possessions and a house built near my own, and thereafter you two shall be in my eyes friends and brothers of Telemachus. Nay, come, more than this, I will shew you also a manifest sign, that you may know me well and be assured in heart, even the scar of the wound which long ago a boar dealt me with his white tusk, when I went to Parnassus with the sons of Autolycus."

Ὅς εἰπὼν ῥά κεα μεγάλης ἀποέργαθεν οὐλῆς.
 τῷ δ' ἐπεὶ εἰσίδετην εὐ τ' ἐφράσσαντο ἕκαστα,
 κλαῖον ἄρ' ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆϊ δαΐφρονι χεῖρε βαλόντε,
 καὶ κύκεον ἀγαπαζόμενοι κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ὤμους
 ὥς δ' αὐτως Ὀδυσσεὺς κεφαλὰς καὶ χεῖρας ἔκυσσε. 225
 καὶ νῦ κ' ὀδυρομένοισιν ἔδω φύος ἡέλλοιο,
 εἰ μὴ Ὀδυσσεὺς αὐτὸς ἐρύκακε φώνησέν τε

"Παύεσθον κλαυθμοῖο γόοιό τε, μὴ τις ἴδῃται
 ἐξελθὼν μεγάροιο, ἀτὰρ εἰπῇσι καὶ εἴσω.
 ἀλλὰ προμνηστῖνοι ἐσέλθετε, μηδ' ἅμα πάντες, 230
 πρῶτος ἐγώ, μετὰ δ' ὕμμες· ἀτὰρ τόδε σῆμα τετύχθω·
 ἄλλοι μὲν γάρ πάντες, ὅσοι μνηστῆρες ἀγανοί,
 οὐκ ἐάσουσιν ἐμοὶ δόμεναι βίῳν ἡδὲ φαρέτρην·
 ἀλλὰ σύ, δι' Εὐμαίε, φέρων ἀνὰ δῶματα τόξον
 ἐν χείρεσσιν ἐμοὶ θέμεναι, εἰπεῖν τε γυναιξὶ 235
 κληῖσαι μεγάροιο θύρας πυκινῶς ἀραρυίας,
 ἦν δέ τις ἢ στοναχῆς ἢ κτύπου ἔνδον ἀκούσῃ
 ἀνδρῶν ἡμετέροισιν ἐν ἔρκεσι, μὴ τι θύραζε
 προβλώσκειν, ἄλλ' αὐτοῦ ἀκὴν ἔμεναι παρὰ ἔργῳ.
 σοὶ δέ, Φιλοίτιε διέ, θύρας ἐπιτέλλομαι αὐλῆς 240
 κληῖσαι κληίδι, θοῶς δ' ἐπὶ δεσμὸν ἰῆλαι."

Ὅς εἰπὼν εἰσῆλθε δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας·
 ἔζετ' ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ Διφρὸν ἰών, ἐνθεν περ ἀνίστη·
 ἐς δ' ἄρα καὶ τὼ δμῶε ἴτην θείου Ὀδυσῆος.

Εὐρύμαχος δ' ἤδη τόξον μετὰ χερσὶν ἐνώμα, 245
 θύλπων ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα σέλα πυρός· ἀλλὰ μιν οὐδ' ὥς
 ἐντανύσαι δύνάτο, μέγα δ' ἔστετε κυδάλιμον κῆρ·
 ὀχθήσας δ' ἄρα εἶπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·

So saying, he drew aside the rags from the great scar. And when the two had seen it, and had marked each thing well, they flung their arms about wise Odysseus, and wept; and they kissed his head and shoulders in loving welcome. And even in like manner Odysseus kissed their heads and hands. And now the light of the sun would have gone down upon their weeping, had not Odysseus himself checked them, and said:

"Cease now from weeping and wailing, lest some one come forth from the hall and see us, and make it known within as well. But go within one after another, not all together, I first and you thereafter, and let this be made a sign. All the rest, as many as are lordly women, will not suffer the bow and the quiver to be given to me; but do thou, goodly Eumæus, as thou bearest the bow through the halls, place it in my hands, and bid the women bar the close-fitting doors of their hall. And if any one of them hears groanings or the din of men within our walls, let them not rush out, but remain where they are in silence at their work. But to thee, goodly Philoetius, do I give charge to fasten with a bar the gate of the court, and swiftly to cast a cord upon it."

So saying, he entered the stately house, and went and sat down on the seat from which he had risen. And the two slaves of divine Odysseus went in as well.

Eurymachus was now handling the bow, warming it on this side and on that in the light of the fire; but not even so was he able to string it; and in his noble heart he groined, and with a burst of anger he spuke and addressed them:

"ὦ πόποι, ἦ μοι ἄχος περί τ' αὐτοῦ καὶ περὶ πάντων·
οὐ τι γάμον τοσσοῦτον ὀδύρομαι, ἀχνύμενός περ 250
εἰσὶ καὶ ἄλλαι πολλαὶ Ἀχαιῖδες, αἱ μὲν ἐν αὐτῇ
ἀμφιάλῳ Ἰθάκῃ, αἱ δ' ἄλλῃσιν πολίεσσιν·
ἀλλ' εἰ δὴ τοσσόνδε βίης ἐπιδευέες εἰμὲν
ἀντιθέου Ὀδυσῆος, ὃ τ' οὐ δυνάμεσθα ταυῦσαι
τόξον· ἐλεγχεῖν δὲ καὶ ἰσσομένοισι πυθέσθαι." 255

Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Ἀντίνοος προσέφη, Εὐπείθεος υἱός·
"Εὐρύμαχ', οὐχ οὕτως ἔσται· νοεῖς δὲ καὶ αὐτός·
νῦν μὲν γὰρ κατὰ δῆμον ἑορτὴ τοῖο θεοῖο
ἀγνὴ· τίς δέ κε τόξα τιταίνοιτ'; ἀλλὰ ἐκῆλοι
κάτθεται· ἀτὰρ πελέκεάς γε καὶ εἴ κ' εἰώμεν ἅπαντας
ἰστάμεν· οὐ μὲν γάρ τιν' ἀναιρήσεσθαι οἶω, 261
ἐλθόντ' ἐς μέγαρον Λαερτιάδῃω Ὀδυσῆος.
ἀλλ' ἄγετ', οἶνοχόος μὲν ἐπαρξάσθω δεπᾶεσσιν,
δῖφρα σπείσαντες καταθείομεν ἀγκύλα τόξα·
ἠῶθεν δὲ κέλεσθε Μελάνθιον, αἰπόλον αἰγῶν, 265
αἶγας ἄγειν, αἱ πᾶσι μέγ' ἔξοχοι αἰπολλίοισιν,
δῖφρ' ἐπὶ μηρία θέντες Ἀπόλλωνι κλυτοτόξῳ
τόξου πειρώμεσθα καὶ ἐκτελέωμεν ἀεθλον."

"ὦς ἔφατ' Ἀντίνοος, τοῖσιν δ' ἐπιήνδανε μῖθος.
τοῖσι δὲ κήρυκες μὲν ὕδωρ ἐπὶ χεῖρας ἔχευαν, 270
κοῦροι δὲ κρητῆρας ἐπεστέψαντο ποτοῖο,
νόμισαν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν ἐπαρξάμενοι δεπᾶεσσιν.
οἱ δ' ἔπει οὖν σπείσαν τ' ἐπιὸν θ' ὅσον ἤθελε θυμός,
τοῖς δὲ δολοφρονέων μετέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"Κέκλυτέ μεν, μνηστῆρες ἀγακλειτῆς βασιλείης· 275

"Out on it! Verily I am grieved for myself and for you all. It is in no wise for the marriage that I mourn so greatly, grieved though I am; for there are many other Achaean women, some in sea-girt Ithaca itself, and some in other cities; but I mourn if in truth we fall so far short of godlike Odysseus in might, seeing that we cannot string his bow. This is a reproach for men that are yet to be to hear of."

Then Antinous, son of Euphithes, answered him: "Eurymachus, this shall not be so, and thou of thyself too knowest it. For to-day throughout the land is the feast of the god¹—a holy feast. Who then would bend a bow? Nay, quietly set it by; and as for the axes—what if we should let them all stand as they are? No man, methinks, will come to the hall of Odysseus, son of Laertes, and carry them off. Nay, come, let the bearer pour drops for libation into the cups, that we may pour libations, and lay aside the curved bow. And in the morning bid Melanthius, the goutherd, to bring she-goats, far the best in all the herds, that we may lay thigh-pieces on the altar of Apollo, the famed archer; and so make trial of the bow, and end the contest."

So spoke Antinous, and his word was pleasing to them. Then the heralds poured water over their hands, and youths filled the bowls brim full of drink, and served out to all, pouring first drops for libation into the cups. But when they had poured libations, and had drunk to their heart's content, then with crafty mind Odysseus of many wiles spoke among them:

"Hear me, wooers of the glorious queen, that I

¹ i.e. of Apollo, the archer-god; cf. l. 267.

ὄφρ' εἶπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.¹
 Εὐρύμαχον δὲ μάλιστα καὶ Ἀντίνοον θεοσιδέα
 λίσσομ', ἐπεὶ καὶ τοῦτο ἔπος κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπε,
 νῦν μὲν παῦσαι τόξον, ἐπιτρέψαι δὲ θεοῖσιν·
 ἡῶθεν δὲ θεὸς δώσει κρίτος ὧ κ' ἐθέλησιν. 280
 ἀλλ' ὧγ' ἐμοὶ δότε τόξον ἐϋξοον, ὄφρα μεθ' ὑμῖν
 χειρῶν καὶ σθένεος πειρήσομαι, ἥ μοι ἔτ' ἐστὶν
 ἴς, οἷη πάρος ἔσκεν ἐνὶ γυαμπτοῖσι μέλεσσιν,
 ἢ ἤδη μοι δλεσσεν ἄλη τ' ἀκομιστή τε."
 ὣς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ὑπερφιάλως γεμίστησαν,
 δείσαντες μὴ τόξον ἐϋξοον ἐντανύσειεν. 285
 Ἀντίνοος δ' ἐνέειπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·
 "Ἄ δαιδὲ ξείνων, ἔνι τοι φρένες οὐδ' ἡβαιαί·
 οὐκ ἀγαπᾷς δ' ἔκηνλος ὑπερφιάλοισι μεθ' ἡμῖν
 δαΐνυσαι, οὐδέ τι δαιτὸς ἀμέρδεαι, αὐτὰρ ἀκούεις 290
 μύθων ἡμετέρων καὶ ῥήσιος; οὐδέ τις ἄλλος
 ἡμετέρων μύθων ξείνος καὶ πτωχὸς ἀκούει.
 οἶνός σε τρώει μελιηδής, ὅς τε καὶ ἄλλους
 βλάπτει, δὲ ἂν μιν χανδὸν ἔλῃ μῆδ' αἴσιμα πίνῃ.
 οἶνος καὶ Κένταυρον, ἀγακλυτὸν Εὐρυτίωνα, 295
 ἄας' ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ μεγαθυμὸν Πειριθόοιο,
 εἰς Λαπίθας ἔλθόνθ'. ὁ δ' ἐπεὶ φρένας ἄσασεν οἶνον,
 μαινόμενος κάκ' ἔρεξε δόμον κάτα Πειριθόοιο·
 ἥρωας δ' ἄχος εἶλε, διέκ προθύρου δὲ θύραζε
 ἔλκον ἀναίξαντες, ὑπ' οὐατα νηλεί χαλκῷ 300
 ῥίνας τ' ἀμήσαντες· ὁ δὲ φρεσὶν ᾗσιν ἰασθεῖς
 ἦεν ἦν ἄτην ὀχέων ἀεσίφρονι θυμῷ.

¹ Line 276 (= xvii. 469; xviii. 332), lacking in the MSS., is found in the oldest editions.

may say what the heart in my breast bids me. To Eurymachus most of all do I make my prayer, and to godlike Antinous, since this word also of his was spoken aright, namely that for the present you cease to try the bow, and leave the issue with the gods; and in the morning the god will give the victory to whomsoever he will. But come, give me the polished bow, that in your midst I may prove my hands and strength, whether I have yet might such as was of old in my supple limbs, or whether by now my wanderings and lack of food have destroyed it."

So he spoke, and they all waxed exceeding wrath, fearing lest he might string the polished bow. And Antinous rebuked him, and spoke and addressed him:

"Ah, wretched stranger, thou hast no wit, no, not a trace. Art thou not content that thou featest undisturbed in our proud company, and lackest naught of the banquet, but hearest our words and our speech, while no other that is a stranger and beggar hears our words? It is wine that wounds thee, honey-sweet wine, which works harm to others too, if one takes it in great gulps, and drinks beyond measure. It was wine that made foolish even the centaur, glorious Eurytion, in the hall of great-hearted Peirithous, when he went to the Lapithæ; and when his heart had been made foolish with wine, in his madness he wrought evil in the house of Peirithous. Then grief seized the heroes, and they leapt up and dragged him forth through the gateway, when they had shorn off his ears and his nostrils with the pitiless bronze, and he, made foolish in heart, went his way, bearing with him the curse of his sin in the folly of his heart. From hence the feud arose

ἐξ οὗ Κενταύροισι καὶ ἀνδράσι νεῖκος ἐτύχθη,
οἱ δ' αὐτῷ πρώτῳ κακὸν εὔρετο οἶνοβαρείων.
ὥς καὶ σοὶ μέγα πῆμα πιφαύσκομαι, αἶ κε τὸ τόξον 303
ἐντανύσῃς· οὐ γάρ τευ ἐπητύως ἀντιβολήσεις
ἡμετέρῳ ἐνὶ δήμῳ, ἄφαρ δέ σε νῆϊ μελαίνῃ
εἰς Ἑχέτορ βασιλῆα, βροτῶν δηλήμονα πάντων,¹
πέμψομεν· ἐνθεν δ' οὐ τι σαώσεται· ἀλλὰ ἔκηλος
πίνῃ τε, μῆδ' ἐρίδαινε μετ' ἀνδράσι κουροτέροισιν." 310

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
" Ἀντίνο', οὐ μὲν καλὸν ἀτέμβειν οὐδὲ δίκαιον
ξείνους Τηλεμάχου, ὅς κεν τάδε δῶμαθ' ἴκηται.
ἔλπεαι, αἶ χ' ὁ ξείνος Ὀδυσσεύς μέγα τόξον
ἐντανύσῃ χερσὶν τε βίβηφι τε ἤφι πιθήσας, 315
οἴκαδ' ἐμ' ἄξεσθαι καὶ ἐὺν θήσεσθαι ἄκοιτιν;
οὐδ' αὐτὸς πονοῦν τοῦτό γ' ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἔολπε·
μῆδέ τις ὑμῶν τοῦ γ' εἵνεκα θυμὸν ἀχεύων
ἐνθάδε δαινύσθω, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδὲ ἔοικεν."

Τὴν δ' αὖτ' Εὐρύμαχος, Πολύβου παῖς, ἀντίον ἤυδα·
" Κούρη Ἰκαρίοιο, περίφρων Πηνελόπεια, 321
οὐ τί σε τόνδ' ἄξεσθαι οἶόμεθ'· οὐδὲ ἔοικεν
ἄλλ' αἰσχυρόμενοι φάτιν ἀνδρῶν ἠδὲ γυναικῶν,
μή ποτέ τις εἴπῃσι κακώτερος ἄλλος Ἀχαιῶν
" Ἡ πολὺ χεῖρονες ἄνδρες ἀμύμονος ἀνδρός ἄκοιτιν 325
μνῶνται, οὐδέ τι τόξον εὐξοὺν ἐντανύουσιν·
ἀλλ' ἄλλος τις πτωχὸς ἀνὴρ ἀλαλήμενος ἐλθὼν
ῥηϊδίως ἐτάνυσσε βίον, διὰ δ' ἤκε σιδήρου."
ὥς ἐρέουσ', ἡμῖν δ' ἂν ἐλέγχεα ταῦτα γένοιτο."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια· 330
" Εὐρύμαχ', οὐ πῶς ἔστιν εὐκλείας κατὰ δῆμον
ἔμμεναι οἱ δὴ οἶκον ἀτιμάζοντες ἔδουσιν

¹ Line 308 is omitted in some MSS.

between the centaurs and mankind; but it was for himself first that he found evil, being heavy with wine. Even so do I declare great harm for thee, if thou shalt string the bow, for thou shalt meet with no kindness at the hands of anyone in our land, but we will send thee straightway in a black ship to king Echetus, the mainer of all men, from whose hands thou shalt in no wise escape alive. Nay, then, be still, and drink thy wine, and do not strive with men younger than thou."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Antinous, it is not well nor just to rob of their due the guests of Telemachus, whosoever he be that comes to this house. Dost thou think that, if yon stranger strings the great bow of Odysseus, trusting in his strength and his might, he will lead me to his home, and make me his wife? Nay, he himself, I ween, has not this hope in his breast; so let no one of you on this account sit at meat here in sorrow of heart; nay, that were indeed unseemly."

Then Eurymachus, son of Polybus, answered her: "Daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, it is not that we think the man will lead thee to his home—that were indeed unseemly—but that we dread the talk of men and women, lest hereafter some base fellow among the Achæans should say: 'Truly men weaker far are wooing the wife of a noble man, and cannot string his polished bow. But another, a beggar, that came on his wanderings, easily strung the bow, and shot through the iron.' Thus will men speak, but to us this would become a reproach."

Then wise Penelope answered him again: "Eury-machus, in no wise can there be good report in the land for men who dishonour and consume the house

ἀνδρὸς ἀριστῆος· τί δ' ἐλέγχεα ταῦτα τίθεσθε;
 οὗτος δὲ ξεῖνος μάλα μὲν μέγας ἦδ' εὐπηγῆς,
 πατρὸς δ' ἐξ ἀγαθοῦ γένος εὐχεται ἔμμεναι υἱός. 335
 ἀλλ' ἄγε οἱ δότε τόξον ἐθξουν, ὄφρα ἴδωμεν.
 ὧδε γὰρ ἐξερέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·
 εἴ κέ μιν ἐντανύσῃ, δῶν δέ οἱ εὐχος Ἀπόλλων,
 ἔσσω μιν χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε, εἵματα καλά,
 δώσω δ' ὄξυν ἄκοντα, κυνῶν ἀλκτῆρα καὶ ἀνδρῶν, 340
 καὶ ξίφος ἄμφηκες· δώσω δ' ὑπὸ ποσσὶ πέδιλα,
 πέμψω δ' ὄππῃ μιν κραδίη θυμός τε κελεύει."

Τὴν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἤυδα·
 "Μῆτερ ἐμή, τόξον μὲν Ἀχαιῶν οὐ τις ἐμεῖο
 κρείσσω, ὅ κ' ἐθέλω, δόμεναί τε καὶ ἀρνήσασθαι, 345
 οὔθ' ὅσσοι κραναὴν Ἰθάκην κάτα κοιρανέουσιν,
 οὔθ' ὅσσοι νήσοισι πρὸς Ἡλίδος ἵπποβότοιο
 τῶν οὐ τίς μ' ἀέκοντα βιήσεται, αἶ κ' ἐθέλωμι
 καὶ καθύπαξ ξείνῳ δόμεναι τῷδε τόξα φέρεσθαι.
 ἀλλ' εἰς οἶκον ἰούσα τὰ σ' αὐτῆς ἔργα κόμιζε, 350
 ἰστόν τ' ἡλακάτην τε, καὶ ἀμφιπόλοισι κέλευε
 ἔργον ἐποιχεσθαι· τόξον δ' ἄνδρεςσι μελήσει
 πᾶσι, μάλιστα δ' ἐμοί· τοῦ γὰρ κράτος ἔστ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ."

Ἡ μὲν θαμβήσασα πάλιν οἰκόνδε βεβήκει·
 παῖδός γὰρ μῦθον πεπνυμένον ἔνθετο θυμῷ. 355
 ἐς δ' ὑπερῷ ἀναβᾶσα σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναῖξί
 κλαῖεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα, φίλον πόσιν, ὄφρα οἱ ὕκνον
 ἠδὺν ἐπὶ βλεφάροισι βάλε γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.

Αὐτὰρ ὁ τόξα λαβὼν φέρε καμπύλα δῖος ὕφορβος·

of a prince. Why then do you make this matter¹ a reproach? This stranger is right tall and well-built, and declares himself to be born the son of a good father. Nay, come, give him the polished bow and let us see. For thus will I speak out to thee, and this word shall verily be brought to pass; if he shall string the bow, and Apollo grant him glory, I will clothe him with a cloak and tunic, fair raiment, and will give him a sharp javelin to ward off dogs and men, and a two-edged sword; and I will give him sandals to bind beneath his feet, and will send him whithersoever his heart and spirit bid him go."

Then wise Telemachus answered her: "My mother, as for the bow, no man of the Achæans has a better right than I to give or to deny it to whomsoever I will—no, not all those who lord it in rocky Ithaca, or in the islands towards horse-pasturing Elis. No man among these shall thwart me against my will, even though I should wish to give this bow outright to the stranger to bear away with him. But do thou go to thy chamber, and busy thyself with thine own tasks, the loom and the distaff, and bid thy handmaids ply their tasks. The bow shall be for men, for all, but most of all for me; since mine is the authority in the house."

She then, seized with wonder, went back to her chamber, for she laid to heart the wise saying of her son. Up to her upper chamber she went with her handmaids, and then bewailed Odysseus, her dear husband, until flashing-eyed Athene cast sweet sleep upon her eyelids.

Now the goodly swineherd had taken the curved

¹ i.e. that the stranger should handle the bow.

μνηστήρες δ' ἄρα πάντες ὁμόκλεον ἐν μεγάροισιν· 360
ὧδε δέ τις εἶπεςκε νέων ὑπερφηνορέοντων·

“Ἢ δὴ καμπύλα τόξα φέρεις, ἀμέγαρτε συβῶτα,
πλαγκτέ; τάχ' αὖ σ' ἐφ' ἑσσι κύνες ταχέες κατέδονται
οἷον ἀπ' ἀνθρώπων, οὓς ἔτρεφες, εἴ κεν Ἀπόλλων
ἡμῖν ἰλήκησι καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι.” 363

“Ὡς φάσαν, αὐτὰρ ὁ θῆκε φέρων αὐτῇ ἐνὶ χώρῃ,
δείσας, οὐνεκα πολλοὶ ὁμόκλεον ἐν μεγάροισιν.
Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἀπειλήσας ἐγγεγώνει·

“Ἄττα, πρόσω φέρε τόξα· τάχ' οὐκ εὖ πᾶσι πιθήσεις·
μή σε καὶ ὀπλότερός περ ἐὼν ἀγρόνδε διώμαι, 370
βάλλων χερμαδίοισι· βίηφι δὲ φέρτερός εἰμι.
αἱ γὰρ πάντων τόσσον, ὅσοι κατὰ δῶματ' ἔασι,
μνηστήρων χερσὶν τε βίηφί τε φέρτερος εἶην·
τῷ κε τάχα στυγερώς τιν' ἐγὼ πέμψαιμι νέεσθαι
ἡμετέρου ἐξ οἴκου, ἐπεὶ κακὰ μηχανόωνται.” 375

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἡδὺ γέλασαν
μνηστήρες, καὶ δὴ μέθιεν χαλεποῖο χόλοιο
Τηλεμήχῳ· τὰ δὲ τόξα φέρων ἀνὰ δῶμα συβώτης
ἐν χείρεσσ' Ὀδυσῆϊ δαΐφρονι θῆκε παραστῆς.
ἐκ δὲ καλεσσάμενος προσέφη τροφὸν Εὐρύκλειαν· 380

“Τηλέμαχος κέλεται σε, περίφρων Εὐρύκλεια,
κληῖσαι μεγάροιο θύρας πυκινῶς ἀραρυίας.
ἦν δέ τις ἢ στοναχῆς ἢ κτύπου ἔνδον ἀκούσῃ
ἀνδρῶν ἡμετέροισιν ἐν ἔρκεσι, μή τι θύραζε
προβλώσκειν, ἀλλ' αὐτοῦ ἀκὴν ἔμεναι παρὰ ἔργῳ.” 385

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν, τῇ δ' ἄπτερος ἔπλετο μῦθος,
κληῖσεν δὲ θύρας μεγάρων εὖ ναιεταόντων.

bow and was bearing it, but the wooers all cried out in the halls. And thus would one of the proud youths speak :

"Whither, pray, art thou bearing the curved bow, miserable swineherd, thou man distraught? Soon by thy swine, alone and apart from men, shall the swift hounds devour thee—hounds thyself didst rear—if but Apollo be gracious to us, and the other immortal gods."

So they spoke, and he set down the bow, as he bore it, in that very place, seized with fear because many men were crying out aloud in the halls. But Telemachus on the other side called out threateningly :

"Father, bear on the bow—soon shalt thou rue giving heed to all—lest, younger though I am, I drive thee to the field, and pelt thee with stones; for in strength I am the better. I would that I were even so much better in strength and might than all the wooers that are in the house; then would I soon send many a one forth from our house to go his way in evil case; for they devise wickedness."

So he spoke, but all the wooers laughed merrily at him, and relaxed the bitterness of their anger against Telemachus. Howbeit the swineherd bore the bow through the hall, and came up to wise Odysseus, and put it in his hands. Then he called forth the nurse Eurycleia, and said to her :

"Telemachus bids thee, wise Eurycleia, to bar the close-fitting doors of the hall, and if any of the women hear within groanings or the din of men in our halls, let them not rush out, but remain where they are in silence at their work."

So he spoke, but her word remained unwinged; and she barred the doors of the stately halls.

Σιγῇ δ' ἐξ οἴκοιο Φιλοίτιος ἄλτο θύραζε,
 κλήισεν δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα θύρας εὐερκέος αὐλῆς.
 κεῖτο δ' ὑπ' αἰθούσῃ δπλον νεὸς ἀμφιελίσσης
 βύβλινον, φ' ῥ' ἐπέδησε θύρας, ἐς δ' ἦλεν αὐτός·
 ἔζετ' ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ δίφρον ἰών, ἐνθεν περ ἀνέστη,
 εἰσορόων Ὀδυσῆα. ὁ δ' ἦδη τόξον ἐνώμα
 πάντα ἀναστρωφών, πειρώμενος ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.
 μὴ κέρα ἱπες ἔδοικεν ἀποιχομένοιο ἄνακτος.
 ὦδε δέ τις εἶπεςκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον·

390

395

"Ἢ τις θηητήρ¹ καὶ ἐπὶ κλοπος ἔπλετο τόξων;
 ἦ ῥά νύ που τοιαῦτα καὶ αὐτῷ οἴκοθι κείται
 ἦ δ' ὅ γ' ἐφορμᾶται ποιησέμεν, ὥς ἐνὶ χερσὶ
 νωμᾷ ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα κακῶν ἔμπαιος ἀλήτης."

400

"Ἄλλος δ' αὖ εἶπεςκε νέων ὑπερηνορεόντων·
 "Αἶ γὰρ δὴ τοσσοῦτον ὀνήσιος ἀντιάσειεν
 ὥς οὐτός ποτε τοῦτο δυνήσεται ἐνταῦσασθαι."

"Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφαν μνηστῆρες· ἀτὰρ πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,
 αὐτίκ' ἐπεὶ μέγα τόξον ἐβιάσασε καὶ ἶδε πάντα,
 ὥς δ' ἄνὴρ φύρμιγγος ἐπιστάμενος καὶ ᾠοιδῆς
 ῥηϊδίως ἐτάνυσσε νέῳ περὶ κόλλασπι χορδῇν,
 ᾧψας ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἐϋστρεφές ἐντερον οἶός,
 ὥς ἄρ' ἄτερ σπονδῆς τάνυσεν μέγα τόξον Ὀδυσσεύς.
 ἐξιτερῇ δ' ἄρα χειρὶ λαβὼν πειρήσατο νευρῆς·
 ἦ δ' ὑπὸ καλὸν αἶσε, χελιδόνι εἰκέλη αὐδῇν.
 μνηστῆρσιν δ' ἄρ' ἄχος γένετο μέγα, πᾶσι δ' ἄρα χρῶς
 ἐτρίπετο· Ζεὺς δὲ μεγάλ' ἐκτυπε σήματα φαίνων·
 γῆθησέν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα πολύτλας διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς,

405

410

¹ θηητήρ: θηρητήρ.

But in silence Philoetius hastened forth from the house, and barred the gates of the well-fenced court. Now there lay beneath the portico the cable of a curved ship, made of byblus plant, where with he made fast the gates, and then himself went within. Thereafter he came and sat down on the seat from which he had risen, and gazed upon Odysseus; now he was already handling the bow, turning it round and round, and trying it this way and that, lest worms might have eaten the horns, while its lord was afar. And thus would one speak with a glance at his neighbour:

"Verily he has a shrewd eye, and is a cunning knave with a bow. It may be haply that he has himself such bows stored away at home, or else he is minded to make one, that he thus turns it this way and that in his hands, the rascally vagabond."

And again another of the proud youths would say: "Would that the fellow might find profit in just such measure as he shall prove able ever to string this bow."

So spoke the wooers, but Odysseus of many wiles, as soon as he had lifted the great bow and scanned it on every side—even as when a man well-skilled in the lyre and in song easily stretches the string about a new peg, making fast at either end the twisted sheep-gut—so without effort did Odysseus string the great bow. And he held it in his right hand, and tried the string, which sang sweetly beneath his touch, like to a swallow in tone. But upon the wooers came great grief, and the faces of them changed colour, and Zeus thundered loud, shewing forth his signs. Then glad at heart was the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus that the son of crooked-

ὅττι βρά οἱ τέρας ἦκε Κρόνου πάϊς ἀγκυλομήτεω· 415
 εἶλετο δ' ὠκὺν οἷστόν, ὃ οἱ παρέκειτο τραπέξῃ
 γυμνός· τοὶ δ' ἄλλοι κοίλῃς ἐντοσθε φαρέτρῃς
 κείατο, τῶν τάχ' ἐμελλον Ἀχαιοὶ πειρήσεσθαι.
 τὸν ῥ' ἐπὶ πῆχει ἐλὼν ἔλκεν νευρὴν γλυφίδας τε,
 αὐτόθεν ἐκ δίφροιο καθήμενος, ἦκε δ' οἷστὸν 420
 ἅντα τιτυσκόμενος, πελέκεων δ' οὐκ ἤμβροτε πάντων
 πρώτης στείλειῃς, διὰ δ' ἀμπερές ἦλθε θύραζε
 ἰὸς χαλκοβαρής· ὃ δὲ Τηλέμαχον προσέειπε·

"Τηλέμαχ', οὐ σ' ὁ ξεῖνος ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐλέγχει
 ἡμενος, οὐδέ τι τοῦ σκοποῦ ἤμβροτον οὐδέ τι τόξον 425
 δὴν ἔκαμον τανύων· ἔτι μαι μένος ἐμπεδὸν ἔστιν,
 οὐχ ὥς με μνηστήρες ἀτιμάζοντες ὄνονται.
 νῦν δ' ὦρῃ καὶ δόρπον Ἀχαιοῖσιν τετυκέσθαι
 ἐν φάει, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα καὶ ἄλλως ἐψιμάσθαι
 μολπῇ καὶ φόρμιγγι· τὰ γάρ τ' ἀναθήματα δαιτός."

Ἥ καὶ ἐπ' ὀφρύσι νεῦσεν· ὃ δ' ἀμφέθετο ξίφος ὀξύ
 Τηλέμαχος, φίλος υἱὸς Ὀδυσσεύος θεῖοιο, 432
 ἀμφὶ δὲ χεῖρα φίλῃν βύλεν ἔγχει, ἄγχι δ' ἄρ' αὐτοῦ
 παρ' θρόνον ἐστήκει κεκορυθμένος αἶθοπι χαλκῷ.

counselling Cronos sent him an omen, and he took up a swift arrow, which lay by him on the table, bare, but the others were stored within the hollow quiver, even those of which the Achseans were soon to taste. This he took, and laid upon the bridge of the bow, and drew the bow-string and the notched arrow even from the chair where he sat, and let fly the shaft with sure aim, and did not miss the end of the handle of one of the axes, but clean through and out at the end passed the arrow weighted with bronze. But he spoke to Telemachus, saying :

"Telemachus, the stranger that sits in thy halls brings no shame upon thee, nor in any wise did I miss the mark, or labour long in stringing the bow ; still is my strength unbroken—not as the wooers scornfully taunt me. But now it is time that supper too be made ready for the Achaeans, while yet there is light, and thereafter must yet other sport be made with song and with the lyre ; for these things are the accompaniments of a feast."

He spoke, and made a sign with his brows, and Telemachus, the dear son of divine Odysseus, girt about him his sharp sword, and took his spear in his grasp, and stood by the chair at his father's side, armed with gleaming bronze.

X

Λὺτάρ ὁ γυμνώθη ῥακέων πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,
 ἄλτο δ' ἐπὶ μέγαν οὐδόν, ἔχων βιὸν ἠδὲ φαρέτρην
 ἰῶν ἐμπλείην, ταχέας δ' ἐκχεύατ' οἷστοὺς
 αὐτοῦ πρόσθε ποδῶν, μετὰ δὲ μνηστῆρσιν ἔειπεν·

“Οὗτος μὲν δὴ ἄεθλος ἰάστος ἐκτετέλεσται·
 τῶν αὐτε σκοπὸν ἄλλον, ὃν οὐ πῶ τις βάλεν ἀνὴρ,
 εἴσομαι, αἶ κε τύχωμι, πόρῃ δέ μοι εὐχος Ἀπόλλων.”

Ἦ καὶ ἐπ' Ἀντινόφῃ ἰθύνετο πικρὸν οἷστόν.
 ἦ τοι ὁ καλὸν ἄλειςον ἀναιρήσεσθαι ἔμελλε,
 χρύσειον ἄμφωτον, καὶ δὴ μετὰ χερσὶν ἐνώμα,
 ὄφρα πίοι οἶνοιο· φόνος δέ οἱ οὐκ ἐνὶ θυμῷ
 μέμβλετο· τίς κ' οἶοιτο μετ' ἀνδράσι δαιτυμόνεσσι
 μοῦνον ἐνὶ πλεόνεσσι, καὶ εἰ μῦλα καρτερὸς εἴη,
 οἱ τεύξειν θάνατόν τε κακὸν καὶ κῆρα μέλαιναν;
 τὸν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς κατὰ λαιμὸν ἐπισχόμενος βάλεν ἰφί, 13
 ἀντικρὺ δ' ἀπαλοῖο δέ' αὐχένος ἤλυθ' ἀκωκῇ.
 ἐκλίνθη δ' ἐτέρωσε, δέπας δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρὸς
 βλημένου, αὐτίκα δ' αὐλὸς ἀνὰ ῥίνας παχύς ἦλθεν
 αἵματος ἀνδρομέοιο· θοῶς δ' ἀπὸ εἰο τράπεζαν
 ὥσε ποδὶ πλήξας, ἀπὸ δ' εἶδατα χεῦεν ἔραξε· 20
 σῖτός τε κρέα τ' ὀπτὰ φορύνετο. τοὶ δ' ὁμᾶδῃσαν
 μνηστῆρες κατὰ δῶμαθ', ὅπως ἴδον ἄνδρα πεσόντα,

BOOK XXII

BUT Odysseus of many wiles stripped off his rags and sprang to the great threshold with the bow and the quiver full of arrows, and poured forth the swift arrows right there before his feet, and spoke among the wooers :

"Lo, now at last is this decisive contest ended ; and now as for another mark, which till now no man has ever smitten, I will know ¹ if haply I may strike it, and Apollo grant me glory."

He spoke, and aimed a bitter arrow at Antinous. Now he was on the point of raising to his lips a fair goblet, a two-eared cup of gold, and was even now handling it, that he might drink of the wine, and death was not in his thoughts. For who among men that sat at meat could think that one man among many, how strong soever he were, would bring upon himself evil death and black fate? But Odysseus took aim, and smote him with an arrow in the throat, and clean out through the tender neck passed the point ; he sank to one side, and the cup fell from his hand as he was smitten, and straightway up through his nostrils there came a thick jet of the blood of man ; and quickly he thrust the table from him with a kick of his foot, and spilled all the food on the floor, and the bread and roast flesh were befouled. Then into uproar broke the wooers through the halls, as they saw the man fallen, and from their high seats

¹ Or, taking *εἰς* as an fut. of *εἶμι*, "I will make for another mark."

ἐκ δὲ θρόνων ἀνόρουσαν ὀριθύντες κατὰ δῶμα,
 πάντοσε παπταίνοντες ἐυδμήτους ποτὶ τοίχους·
 οὐδέ πη ἄσπις ἔην οὐδ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος ἰλέσθαι. 25
 γέλειον δ' Ὀδυσῆα χολωτοῖσιν ἐπέεσσιν

"Ξεῖνε, κακῶς ἀνδρῶν τοξάζεαι· οὐκ ἐτ' ἀέθλων
 ἄλλων ἀντιάσεις· νῦν τοι σῶς αἰπὺς δλεθρός.
 καὶ γὰρ δὴ νῦν φῶτα κατέκτανες ὅς μ' ἐγ' ἄριστος
 κούρων εἰν Ἰθάκῃ τῷ σ' ἐνθάδε γῦπες ἔδονται." 30

[Ἴσκειν ἕκαστος ἀνὴρ, ἐπεὶ ἡ φάσαν οὐκ ἐθέλοντα
 ἄνδρο κατακτείνει· τὸ δὲ νῆπιοι οὐκ ἐνόησαν,
 ὡς δὴ σφιν καὶ πᾶσιν ὀλέθρου πείρατ' ἐφῆπτο.¹]

τοὺς δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ κύνες, οὐ μ' ἐτ' ἐφάσκεθ' ὑπότροπον οἰκαδ'
 , ἰέσθαι 35

δῆμον ἅπο Τρώων, ὅτι μοι κατεκείρατε οἶκον,
 δμῳῆσιν δὲ γυναῖξιν παρευνάξεσθε βιαίως,²
 αὐτοῦ τε ζῶοντος ὑπερνάασθε γυναῖκα,
 οὔτε θεοὺς δέσαντες, οἳ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσιν,
 οὔτε τιν' ἀνθρώπων νέμεσιν κατόπισθεν ἔσεσθαι.³ 40
 νῦν ὑμῖν καὶ πᾶσιν ὀλέθρου πείρατ' ἐφῆπται."

Ἦς φάτο, τοὺς δ' ἄρα πάντας ὑπὸ χλωρὸν δέος εἶλεν·
 πάπτηνεν δὲ ἕκαστος ὅπῃ φύγοι αἰπὺν δλεθρον.⁴

Εὐρύμαχος δὲ μιν οἷος ἀμειβόμενος προσέειπεν·
 "Εἰ μὲν δὴ Ὀδυσσεύς Ἰθακῆσιος εἰλήλουθας,
 ταῦτα μὲν αἰσιμα εἶπας, ὅσα ῥέξεσκον Ἀχαιοί, 45

¹ Lines 31-3 were rejected by Aristarchus.

² Line 37 follows 33 in many MSS.

³ *ἔσεσθαι*: *ἔσθαι*.

⁴ Line 43 is omitted in many MSS.

they sprang, driven in fear through the hall, gazing everywhere along the well-built walls; but nowhere was there a shield or mighty spear to seize. But they railed at Odysseus with angry words:

"Stranger, to thy cost dost thou shoot at men; never again shalt thou take part in other contests; now is thy utter destruction sure. Aye, for thou hast now slain a man who was far the best of the youths in Ithaca; therefore shall vultures devour thee here."

So spoke¹ each man, for verily they thought that he had not slain the man wilfully; and in their folly they knew not this, that over themselves one and all the cords of destruction had been made fast. Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered them:

"Ye dogs, ye thought that I should never more come home from the land of the Trojans, seeing that ye wasted my house, and lay with the maidservants by force, and while yet I lived covertly wooed my wife, having no fear of the gods, who hold broad heaven, nor of the indignation of men, that is to be hereafter. Now over you one and all have the cords of destruction been made fast."

So he spoke, and thereat² pale fear seized them all, and each man gazed about to see how he might escape utter destruction; Eurymachus alone answered him, and said:

"If thou art indeed Odysseus of Ithaca, come home again, this that thou sayest is just regarding all that the Achaeans have wrought—many deeds of

¹ Or, "so guessed"; see the note on xix. 203.

² Or the preposition may be local, "seized the limbs of all beneath them." The same ambiguity occurs in other passages.

πολλὰ μὲν ἐν μεγάροισιν ἀτάσθαλα, πολλὰ δ' ἐπ' ἀγροῦ,
 ἰλλ' ὁ μὲν ἤδη κεῖται ὃς αἴτιος ἔπλετο πάντων,

Ἄντινοος· οὗτος γὰρ ἐπῆλεν τάδε ἔργα,

οὐ τι γάμου τόσσον κεχρημέτος οὐδ' χατίζων, 50

ἀλλ' ἄλλα φρονέων, τὰ οὐ οὐκ ἐτέλεσσε Κρονίων,

ὄφρ' Ἰθύκης κατὰ δῆμον ἐυκτιμένης βασιλεύει

αὐτός, ἀτὰρ σὸν παῖδα κατακτείνει λοχῆσας.

νῦν δ' ὁ μὲν ἐν μοίρῃ πέφάται, σὺ δὲ φεῖδες λαῶν

σῶν· ἀτὰρ ἄμμες ὀπισθεν ἄρεσσάμενοι κατὰ δῆμον, 55

ὅσσα τοι ἐκπέποιται καὶ ἐδίδδοται ἐν μεγάροισι,

τιμὴν ἄμφις ἄγοντες εἰκοσάβοιον ἕκαστος,

χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τ' ἀποδώσομεν, εἰς δ' κε σὸν κῆρ

ἱανθῇ· πρὶν δ' οὐ τι νεμεσσητόν κεχολῶσθαι."

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

"Εὐρύμαχ', οὐδ' εἴ μοι πατρώϊα πάντ' ἀποδοῖτε, 61

ὅσσα τε νῦν ὑμῖν ἐστὶ καὶ εἴ ποθεν ἄλλ' ἐπιθεῖτε,

οὐδέ κεν ὥς ἔτι χεῖρας ἐμὰς λήξαιμι φόνοιο

πρὶν πάσαν μνηστήρας ὑπερβασίην ἀποτίσαι.

νῦν ὑμῖν παρίκειται ἐναντίον ἢ μάχεσθαι 65

ἢ φεύγειν, ὃς κεν θάνατον καὶ κῆρας ἀλύξῃ·

ἀλλὰ τίς οὐ φεύξεσθαι ὀλομαι αἰπὺν δλεθρον."

Ἦς φάτο, τῶν δ' αὐτοῦ λυτο γούνατα καὶ φίλον ἦτορ

τοῖσιν δ' Εὐρύμοχος προσεφώνεε δεύτερον αὖτις·

"ὦ φίλοι, οὐ γὰρ σχήσει ἀνὴρ ὃδε χεῖρας ἀάπτους, 71

ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ ἔλλαβε τόξον ἐβξοον ἠδὲ φαρέττην,

οὐδοῦ ἀπο ξεστοῦ τοξάσσεται, εἰς δ' κε πάντας

ἄμμε κατακτεῖνῃ· ἀλλὰ μνησώμεθα χάρμης.

wanton folly in thy halls and many in the field. But he now lies dead, who was to blame for all, even Antinous; for it was he who set on foot these deeds, not so much through desire or need of the marriage, but with another purpose, which the son of Cronos did not bring to pass for him, that in the land of settled Ithaca he might himself be king, and might lie in wait for thy son and slay him. But now he lies slain, as was his due, but do thou spare the people that are thine own; and we will hereafter go about the land and get thee recompense for all that has been drunk and eaten in thy halls, and will bring each man for himself in requital the worth of twenty oxen, and pay thee back in bronze and gold until thy heart be warmed; but till then no one could blame thee that thou art wroth."

Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered him: "Eurymachus, not even if you should give me in requital all that your fathers left you, even all that you now have, and should add other wealth thereto from whence ye might, not even so would I henceforth stay my hands from slaying until the wooers had paid the full price of all their transgression. Now it lies before you to fight in open fight, or to flee, if any man may avoid death and the fates; but many a one, methinks, shall not escape from utter destruction."

So he spoke, and their knees were loosened where they stood, and their hearts melted; and Eurymachus spoke among them again a second time:

"Friends, for you see that this man will not stay his invincible hands, but now that he has got the polished bow and the quiver, will shoot from the smooth threshold until he slays us all, come, let us take

φύσγανά τε σπάσσεσθε καὶ ἀντίσχεσθε τραπέζας
 ἰὼν ὠκυμόρων· ἐπὶ δ' αὐτῷ πάντες ἔχωμεν 75
 ἄθροοι, εἴ κέ μιν οὐδοῦ ἀπώσομεν ἠδὲ θυράων.
 ἔλθωμεν δ' ἀνὰ ἄστυ, βοῇ δ' ὤκιστα γένοιτο·
 τῷ κε τάχ' οὔτος ἀνὴρ νῦν ὕστατα τοξάσσαιτο."

"Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας εἰρύσσατο φάσγανον ὀξύ
 χάλκεον, ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἀκαχμένον, ἄλτο δ' ἐπ' αὐτῷ 80
 σμερδολέα ἰάχων· ὁ δ' ἀμαρτῇ διος Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ἰὼν ἀποπροΐει, βάλε δὲ στήθος παρὰ μαζόν,
 ἐν δὲ οἱ ἦπατι πῆξε θοὸν βέλος· ἐκ δ' ἄρα χειρὸς
 φάσγανον ἦκε χαμᾶζε, περιρρηδῆς δὲ τραπέζῃ
 κᾶππεσεν ἰδυνωθείς,¹ ἀπὸ δ' εἶδατα χεῦεν ἔραζε 85
 καὶ δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον· ὁ δὲ χθόνα τύπτε μετώπῳ
 θυμῷ ἀνιΐζων, ποσὶ δὲ θρόνον ἀμφοτέροισι
 λακτιζὼν ἐτίνασσε κατ' ὀφθαλμῶν δ' ἔχυτ' ἀχλὺς.

Ἀμφινόμος δ' Ὀδυσῆος εἰείσατο κυδαλίμοιο 90
 ἀντίος αἰξας, εἴρυτο δὲ φάσγανον ὀξύ,
 εἰ πὼς οἱ εἴξειε θυράων. ἀλλ' ἄρα μιν φθῆ
 Τηλέμαχος κατόπισθε βαλὼν χαλκήρεϊ δουρὶ
 ὤμων μεσσηγύς, διὰ δὲ στήθεσφιν ἔλασσεν·
 δούπησεν δὲ πέσῳν, χθόνα δ' ἤλασε παντὶ μετώπῳ.
 Τηλέμαχος δ' ἀπόρουσε, λιπὼν δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος 95
 αὐτοῦ ἐν Ἀμφινόμῳ· περὶ γὰρ διέ μή τις Ἀχαιῶν
 ἔγχος ἀνελκόμενον δολιχόσκιον ἢ ἐλάσειε
 φασγάνῳ αἰξας ἢ ἐπροπρηνέα² τύψας.
 Βῆ δὲ θέειν, μάλα δ' ὤκα φίλον πατέρ' εἰσαφίκανεν,
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰστάμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα· 100

¹ Ἰδυνθείς: διδυθείς.

² προπρηνεία: προπρηνεί.

thought of battle. Draw your swords, and hold the tables before you against the arrows that bring swift death, and let us all have at him in a body, in the hope that we may thrust him from the threshold and the doorway, and go throughout the city, and so the alarm be swiftly raised; then should this fellow soon have shot his last."

So saying, he drew his sharp sword of bronze, two-edged, and sprang upon Odysseus with a terrible cry, but at the same instant goodly Odysseus let fly an arrow, and struck him upon the breast beside the nipple, and fixed the swift shaft in his liver. And Eurymachus let the sword fall from his hand to the ground, and writhing over the table he bowed and fell, and spilt upon the floor the food and the two-handled cup. With his brow he beat the earth in agony of soul, and with both his feet he spurned and shook the chair, and a mist was shed over his eyes.

Then Amphinomus made at glorious Odysseus, rushing straight upon him, and had drawn his sharp sword, in hope that Odysseus might give way before him from the door. But Telemachus was too quick for him, and cast, and smote him from behind with his bronze-tipped spear between the shoulders, and drove it through his breast; and he fell with a thud, and struck the ground full with his forehead. But Telemachus sprang back, leaving the long spear where it was, fixed in Amphinomus, for he greatly feared lest, as he sought to draw forth the long spear, one of the Achæans might rush upon him and stab him with his sword, or deal him a blow as he stooped over the corpse. So he started to run, and came quickly to his dear father, and standing by his side spoke to him winged words:

"ὦ πάτερ, ἤδη τοι σάκος οἶσω καὶ δύο δοῦρε
καὶ κυνὴν πάγχαλκον, ἐπὶ κροτάφοις ἀραρυῖαν
αὐτός τ' ἀμφιβαλεῦμοι ἰών, δώσω δὲ συβώτῃ
καὶ τῷ βουκόλῳ ἄλλα· τετευχῆσθαι γὰρ ἄμεινον."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
"Οἶσε θεῶν, ἧός μοι ἰμύνεσθαι παρ' οἷστοί, 106
μή μ' ἀποκινήσωσι θυράων μῦνον ἔντα."

Ἦς φέτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεπείθετο πατρί,
βῆ δ' ἱμεναι θάλαμόνδ', ὅθι οἱ κλυτὰ τεύχεα κεῖτο.
ἐνθεν τέσσαρα μὲν σάκε' ἔξελε, δούρατα δ' ὀκτὼ 110
καὶ πίσυρας κυνέας χαλκήρεας ἱπποδασείας·
βῆ δὲ φέρων, μάλα δ' ὤκα φίλον πατέρ' εἰσαφίκανε,
αὐτὸς δὲ πρῶτιστα περὶ χροῦ δύσετο χαλκὸν
ὥς δ' αὐτῶς τὼ δμῶε διύσθην τεύχεα καλά,
ἔσταν δ' ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆα δαΐφρονα ποικιλομήτην. 115

Λύτῳ δ' ἄρ' ὅ γ' ὄφρα μὲν αὐτῷ ἀμύνεσθαι ἔσαν ἰοί.
τόφρα μνηστήρων ἓνα γ' αἰεὶ φ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
βαλλε τίτυσκόμενος· τοὶ δ' ἀγχιστῖνοι ἐπιπτον.
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ λίπον ἰοὶ διστεύοντα ἄνακτα,
τόξον μὲν πρὸς σταθμὸν εὐσταθέος μεγάροιο 120
ἔκλιν' ἐστάμεναι, πρὸς ἐνώπια παμφανόωντα,
αὐτός δ' ἀμφ' ὥμοισι σάκος θέτο τετραβέλυμον,
κρατὶ δ' ἐπ' ἰφθίμῳ κυνὴν εὐτυκτον ἔθηκεν,
ἵππουριν, δινὸν δὲ λόφος καθύπερθεν ἔνευεν·
εἶλετο δ' αἰκίμα δοῦρε δύο κεκορυθμένα χαλκῷ. 125
Ὅρσοθύρῃ δὲ τις ἔσκεν εὐδμήτῳ ἐνὶ τοίχῳ,

"Father, now will I bring thee a shield and two spears and a helmet all of bronze, well fitted to the temples, and when I come back I will arm myself, and will give armour likewise to the awineherd and yon neatherd; for it is better to be clothed in armour."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him and said: "Run, and bring them, while yet I have arrows to defend me, lest they thrust me from the door, alone as I am."

So he spoke, and Telemachus hearkened to his dear father, and went his way to the store-chamber where the glorious arms were stored. Thence he took four shields and eight spears and four helmets of bronze, with thick plumes of horse-hair; and he bore them forth, and quickly came to his dear father. Then first of all he himself girded the bronze about his body, and even in like manner the two slaves put on them the beautiful armour, and took their stand on either side of Odysseus, the wise and crafty-minded.

But he, so long as he had arrows to defend him, would ever aim, and smite the wooers one by one in his house, and they fell thick and fast. But when the arrows failed the prince, as he shot, he leaned the bow against the door-post of the well-built hall, and let it stand against the bright entrance wall. For himself, he put about his shoulders a four-fold shield, and set on his mighty head a well-wrought helmet with horse-hair plume, and terribly did the plume wave above him; and he took two mighty spears, tipped with bronze.

Now there was in the well-built wall a certain

ἀκρότατον δὲ παρ' οὐδὸν εὐσταθέος μεγάροιο
 ἦν ὁδὸς ἐς λαύρην, σανίδες δ' ἔχον εὐ ἄρορυαί.
 τὴν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς φράζεσθαι ἀνώγει διὸν ὑφορβὸν
 ἑσταότ' ἄγχ' αὐτῆς· μία δ' οἷη γίγνεται ἑφορμή. 130

τοῖς δ' Ἀγέλεως μετέειπεν, ἔπος πάντεσσι πιφαύσκων·

“ὦ φίλοι, οὐκ ἂν δὴ τις ἂν ὀρσοθύρην ἀναβαίη
 καὶ εἴποι λαοῖσι, βοή δ' ὤκιστα γένοιτο;
 τῷ κε τάχ' οὗτος ἀνὴρ νῦν ἕστατα τοξάσσεται.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν·
 “Οὐ πως ἔστ', Ἀγέλαε διοτρεφές· ἄγχι γὰρ αἰνῶς 135
 αὐλῆς καλὰ θύρετρα καὶ ἀργαλέον στόμα λαύρης·
 καί χ' εἰς πάντα ἐρύκοι ἀνὴρ, ὅς τ' ἄλκιμος εἴη.

ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', ὑμῖν τεύχε' ἐνέικω θωρηχθῆναι
 ἐκ θαλόμου· ἔνδον γάρ, ὁτομαι, οὐδέ πη ἄλλη 140
 τεύχεα κατθέσθην Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ φαίδιμος υἱός.”

ὣς εἰπὼν ἀνέβαινε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν,
 ἐς θαλάμους Ὀδυσῆος ἠνὰ ῥῶγας μεγάροιο.
 ἔνθεν δώδεκα μὲν σάκε' ἐξελε, τόσσα δὲ δοῦρα

¹ The *εὐσταθὴν* appears to have been a door, in the innermost part of the hall, higher in level than the floor of the great hall itself (hence the name “raised-door”), and approached by a flight of steps (the *ῥῶγες* of line 143). This door may well have been invisible from where Odysseus stood, and it opened upon a “way” leading into a passage (*λαύρη*). This last need not be further defined. The palace embraced many smaller buildings besides the main hall, and there may have been many such passages between them. The obscure phrase *ἀκρότατον δὲ παρ' οὐδὸν* I understand thus: assuming that the ground rose slightly from the front of the palace to the rear, I assume further that the floor of the hall itself was levelled, so that the *οὐδὸς* (by which I understand the whole foundation upon which the walls rested),

postern door,¹ and along the top-most level of the threshold of the well-built hall was a way into a passage, and well-fitting folding doors closed it. This postern Odysseus bade the goodly swineherd watch, taking his stand close by, for there was but a single way to reach it. Then Agelaus spoke among the wovees, and declared his word to all:

"Friends, will not one mount up by the postern door, and tell the people, that so an alarm may be raised straightway? Then should this fellow soon have shot his last."

Then Melanthius, the goatherd, answered him: "It may not be, Agelaus, fostered of Zeus, for terribly near is the fair door of the court, and the mouth of the passage is hard. One man could bar the way for all, so he were valiant. But come, let me bring you from the store-room arms to don, for it is within, methinks, and nowhere else that Odysseus and his glorious son have laid the arms."

So saying, Melanthius, the goatherd, mounted up by the steps² of the hall to the store-rooms of Odysseus. Thence he took twelve shields, as many spears, and

which was level with the threshold in front, was elevated to the ground level in the rear. Hence the fact that the *ἄπορτος*, opening upon a "way" outside, was itself above the floor of the hall, and had to be reached by steps. That the *αἶθρς*, or foundation wall, was not itself level, but followed the slope of the ground, seems to me to offer no difficulty.

² See the preceding note. Others understand the *ἄγες* to have been openings in the wall (one of which was the *ἄπορτος* itself) whereby one could climb up. But it is certain that the store-room was on the ground floor. The word *ἄγες* is, I take it, to be connected with *ἄγος*, and to call the steps "breaks" in an ascent is surely natural enough: see Monro.

καὶ τόσσας κυνέας χαλκήρεας ἰπποδασείας¹ 145
 βῆ δ' Ἴμεναι, μάλα δ' ὦκα φέρων μνηστῆρσιν ἔδωκεν.
 καὶ τότε Ὀδυσσεύς λυτο γούνατα καὶ φίλον ἦτορ,
 ὥς περιβαλλομένους ἶδε τεύχεα χερσὶ τε δοῦρα
 μακρὰ τινάσσοντας· μέγα δ' αὐτῷ φαίνεται ἔργον.
 αἶψα δὲ Τηλέμαχον ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα· 150

“Τηλέμαχ', ἡ μάλα δὴ τις ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γυναικῶν
 νῶϊν ἐποτρύνει πόλεμον κακὸν ἢ Μελανθεὺς.”

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦ᾽ ἔειπε·
 “ὦ πάτερ, αὐτὸς ἐγὼ τόδε γ' ἡμβροτον—οὐδέ τις ἄλλος
 αἴτιος—ὃς θαλάμοιο θύρην πυκινῶς ἀραρυῖαν 155
 κάλλιπον ἀγκλῖνας· τῶν δὲ σκοπὸς ἦεν ἀμείνων.
 ἀλλ' ἴθι, δῖ' Εὐμαίε, θύρην ἐπίθες θαλάμοιο
 καὶ φράσαι ἢ τις ἄρ' ἐστὶ γυναικῶν ἢ τάδε ῥέζει,
 ἢ νῆς Δολιχίου, Μελανθεὺς, τὸν περ ὄλω.”

Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον, 160
 βῆ δ' αὖτις θάλαμόνδε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν,
 οἷσων τεύχεα καλά. νόησε δὲ δῖος ὑφορβός,
 αἶψα δ' Ὀδυσσεύς προσεφώνεεν ἐγγυὲς ἔοντα·

“Διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,
 κείνος δ' αὐτ' αἰδήςλος ἀνὴρ, δν διομέθ' αὐτοί, 165
 ἔρχεται εἰς θάλαμον· σὺ δέ μοι νημερτὲς ἐνίσπες,
 ἢ μιν ἀποκτείνω, αἶ κε κρείσσων γὰρ γένωμαι,
 ἢε σοὶ ἐνθάδ' ἄγω, ἵν' ὑπερβασίας ἀποτίσῃ
 πολλὰς, ὅσσας οὗτος ἐμήσατο σῶ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ.”

Τὸν δ' ὑπαμβρομέων προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “ὦ τοι ἐγὼ καὶ Τηλέμαχος μνηστῆρας ἀγαθοὺς 171
 σχήσομεν ἐντοσθεν μεγάρων, μάλα περ μεμαῶτας.

¹ Lines 144-5 were rejected by Aristarchus.

as many helmets of bronze with thick plumes of horse-hair, and went his way, and quickly brought and gave them to the wooers. Then the knees of Odysseus were loosened and his heart melted, when he saw them donning armour and brandishing long spears in their hands, and great did his task seem to him; but quickly he spoke to Telemachus winged words:

"Telemachus, verily some one of the women in the halls is rousing against us an evil battle, or haply it is Melanthius."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Father, it is I myself that am at fault in this, and no other is to blame, for I left the close-fitting door of the store-room open: their watcher was better than I. But go now, goodly Eumæus, close the door of the store-room, and see whether it is one of the women who does this, or Melanthius, son of Dolius, as I suspect."

Thus they spoke to one another. But Melanthius, the goatherd, went again to the store-room to bring beautiful armour; howbeit the goodly swineherd marked him, and straightway said to Odysseus who was near:

"Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many devices, yonder again is the pestilent fellow, whom we ourselves suspect, going to the store-room. But do thou tell me truly, shall I slay him, if I prove the better man, or shall I bring him hither to thee, that the fellow may pay for the many crimes that he has planned in thy house?"

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him and said: "Verily I and Telemachus will keep the lordly wooers within the hall, how fierce soever they be,

σφῶϊ δ' ἀποστρέψαντε πόδας καὶ χεῖρας ὑπερβεν
 ἐς θάλαμον βαλέειν, σανίδας δ' ἐκδῆσαι ὀπισθε,
 173 σειρὴν δὲ πλεκτὴν ἐξ αὐτοῦ πειρήναντε
 κίον' ἀν' ὑψηλὴν ἐρύσαι πελάσσαι τε δοκοῖσιν,
 ὥς κεν δηθὰ ζωὸς ἐὼν χαλέπ' ἄλγεα πάσχει."

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα τοῦ μᾶλα μὲν κλύον ἠδ' ἐπίθοντο,
 βάν δ' ἴμεν ἐς θάλαμον, λαθέτην δέ μιν ἔνδον ἔοντα.
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν θαλάμοιο μυχὸν κάτα τεύχε' ἐρέυνα, 180
 τῷ δ' ἔσταν ἐκύτερθε παρὰ σταθμοῖσι μένοντε.
 εὖθ' ὑπὲρ οὐδὸν ἔβαινε Μελάνθιος, αἰπόλος αἰγῶν,
 τῇ ἐτέρῃ μὲν χειρὶ φέρων καλὴν τρυφάλειαν,
 τῇ δ' ἐτέρῃ σάκος εὐρὺ γέρον, πεπαλαγμένον ἄζη,
 Λαέρτῳ ἥρωος, ὃ κουρίζων φορέεσκε 183

δὴ τότε γ' ἤδη κεῖτο, ῥαφαὶ δὲ λέλυντο ἱμάντων·
 τῷ δ' ἄρ' ἐπαῖξανθ' ἐλέτην ἔρυσάν τέ μιν εἴσω
 κουρίξ, ἐν δαπέδῳ δὲ χαμαὶ βάλλον ἀχνύμενον κῆρ,
 σὺν δὲ πόδος χειρὺς τε δῖον θυμαλγεί δεσμῷ
 εὖ μὲν ἀποστρέψαντε διαμπερές, ὥς ἐκέλευσεν 190
 υἱὸς Λαέρταο, πολὺτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 σειρὴν δὲ πλεκτὴν ἐξ αὐτοῦ πειρήναντε
 κίον' ἀν' ὑψηλὴν ἔρυσαν πέλασάν τε δοκοῖσι.
 τὸν δ' ἐπικερτομέων προσέφη, Εὐμαίε συβῶτα·

"Νῦν μὲν δὴ μᾶλα πάγχυ, Μελάνθιε, νύκτα φυλάξεις,
 εὖνῃ ἐνι μαλακῇ καταλέγμενος, ὥς σε ἔοικεν 193
 οὐδέ σε γ' ἡριγένεια παρ' Ὀϊκαῖοιο ῥοάων
 λήσει ἐπερχομένη χρυσόθρονος, ἥνικ' ἀγινεῖς
 αἰγας μνηστήρεσσι δόμον κάτα δαῖτα πένεσθαι."

¹ Line 191 is omitted in many MSS.

but do you two bend behind him his feet and his arms above, and cast him into the store-room, and tie boards behind his back; then make fast to his body a twisted rope, and hoist him up the tall pillar, till you bring him near the roof-beams, that he may keep alive long, and suffer grievous torment."

So he spoke, and they readily hearkened and obeyed. Forth they went to the store-room, unseen of him who was within. He truly was seeking for armour in the innermost part of the store-room, and the two lay in wait, standing on either side of the door-posts. And when Melanthius, the goatherd, was about to pass over the threshold, bearing in one hand a goodly helm, and in the other a broad old shield, flecked with rust—the shield of lord Laertes, which he was wont to bear in his youth, but now it was laid by, and the seams of its straps were loosened—then the two sprang upon him and seized him. They dragged him in by the hair, and flung him down on the ground in sore terror, and bound his feet and hands with galling bonds, binding them firmly behind his back, as the son of Laertes bade them, the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus; and they made fast to his body a twisted rope, and hoisted him up the tall pillar, till they brought him near the roof-beams. Then didst thou mock him, swineherd Eumæus, and say:

"Now verily, Melanthius, shalt thou watch the whole night through, lying on a soft bed, as befits thee, nor shalt thou fail to mark the early Dawn, golden-throned, as she comes forth from the streams of Oceanus, at the hour when thou art wont to drive thy she-goats for the wooers, to prepare a feast in the halls."

Ὡς ὁ μὲν αὖθι λείπειτο, ταβείς ὅλοφ' ἐπὶ δεσμῷ· 200
 τῷ δ' ἐς τεύχεα δύντε, θύρην ἐπιθέντε φαεινὴν,
 βήτην εἰς Ὀδυσῆα δαίφρονα, ποικιλομήτην.
 ἔνθα μένος πνείοντες ἐφέστασαν, οἳ μὲν ἐπ' οὐδῶ
 τέσσαρες, οἳ δ' ἔντοσθε δόμων πολέες τε καὶ ἐσθλοί.
 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' ἀγχίμολον θυγύτηρ Διὸς ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη, 205
 Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἥμην δέμας ἡδὲ καὶ αὐδὴν.
 τῇ δ' Ὀδυσσεύς γήθησεν ἰδὼν καὶ μῦθον ἔειπε·

“ Μέντορ, ἄμυνον ἱρήν, μῆσαι δ' ἐτάροιο φίλοιο,
 ὅς σ' ἀγαθὰ ρέζουσιν ὀμηλική δέ μοι ἔσσι.”

Ὡς φάτ', οἰόμενος λιοσσόον ἔμμεν Ἀθήνην. 210
 μνηστήρες δ' ἐτέρωθεν ὁμόκλεον ἐν μεγάροισι·
 πρῶτος τὴν γ' ἐνέειπε Δαμαστορίδης Ἀγέλαος·

“ Μέντορ, μὴ σ' ἐπέεσι παραιπετίθῃσιν Ὀδυσσεύς
 μνηστήρεσσι μάχεσθαι, ἀμυνέμεναι δέ οἱ αὐτῷ.
 ὦδε γὰρ ἡμέτερόν γε νόον τελέεσθαι ὀίω· 215

ὁππότε κεν τούτους κτένῃμεν, πατέρ' ἤδ' καὶ υἱόν,
 ἐν δὲ σὺ τοῖσιν ἔπειτα πεφῆσαι, οἷα μνηστῆρες
 ἔρδειν ἐν μεγάροις· σφὶ δ' αὐτῷ κράτι τίσεις.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν ὑμέων γε βίας ἀφελώμεθα χαλκῷ,
 κτήμαθ' ὁπόσσα τοῖ ἔστι, τὰ τ' ἔνδοθι καὶ τὰ θύρῃφι,
 τοῖσιν Ὀδυσσεύς μεταμίξομεν οὐδέ τοι υἱας 221
 ζῶων ἐν μεγάροισιν ἔασομεν, οὐδέ θυγατρας
 οὐδ' ἄλοχον κεδνὴν Ἰθάκης κατὰ ἄστυ πολεΰειν.”

Ὡς φάτ', Ἀθηναίη δὲ χολώσατο κηρόθι μῆλλον,
 κέκεσσαν δ' Ὀδυσῆα χολωτοῖσιν ἐπέεσσιν· 225

“ Οὐκίτι σάί γ', Ὀδυσσεύ, μένος ἔμπεδον οὐδέ τις ἄλκῃ,
 οἷη δὲ ἄμφ' Ἑλένη λευκωλένῃ εὐπατερεῖη.

So he was left there, stretched in the direful bond, but the two put on their armour, and closed the bright door, and went to Odysseus, the wise and crafty-minded. There they stood, breathing fury, those on the threshold but four, while those within the hall were many and brave. Then Athene, daughter of Zeus, drew near them, like unto Mentor in form and voice, and Odysseus saw her, and was glad; and he spoke, saying:

"Mentor, ward off ruin, and remember me, thy dear comrade, who often befriended thee. Thou art of like age with myself."

So he spoke, deeming that it was Athene, the rouser of hosts. But the wooers on the other side shouted aloud in the hall, and first Agelans, son of Damastor, rebuked Athene, saying:

"Mentor, let not Odysseus beguile thee with his words to fight against the wooers and bear aid to himself. For in this wise, methinks, shall our will be brought to pass: when we have killed these men, father and son, thereafter shalt thou too be slain with them, such deeds art thou minded to do in these halls: with thine own head shalt thou pay the price. But when with the sword we have stripped you of your might, all the possessions that thou hast within doors and in the fields we will mingle with those of Odysseus, and will not suffer thy sons or thy daughters to dwell in thy halls, nor thy faithful wife to fare at large in the city of Ithaca."

So he spoke, and Athene waxed the more wroth at heart, and she rebuked Odysseus with angry words:

"Odysseus, no longer hast thou steadfast might nor any valour, such as was thine when for high-born Helen of the white arms thou didst for nine years

εἵναί τε Τρώεσσι νῆμαρ νωλεμές αἰεὶ,
 πολλοὺς δ' ἄνδρας ἔπεφνες ἐν αἰνῇ δηϊοτήτι,
 σῇ δ' ἤλω βουλῇ Πριάμου πόλιν εὐρυάγνια. 230
 πῶς δὴ νῦν, ὅτε σὸν τε δόμον καὶ κτήμοθ' ἱκάνεις,
 ἅντα μνηστήρων ὀλοφύραι αἰκίμος εἶναι;
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δεῦρο, πέπον, παρ' ἐμ' ἵστασο καὶ ἴδε ἔργον,
 ὅφρ' εἰδῇς οἷός τοι ἐν ἀνδράσι δυσμενέεσσιν
 Μέντωρ Ἀλκιμίδης εὐεργεσίας ἀποτίνειν." 235

"Ἢ ῥῆ, καὶ οὐ πῶ πάγχυ δίδου ἑτεραλκέα νίκην,
 ἀλλ' ἔτ' ἄρα σθιnéος τε καὶ ἀλκῆς πειρήτιζεν
 ἡμῖν Ὀδυσσεύς ἡδ' υἱοῦ κυδαλίμοιο.
 αὐτὴ δ' αἰθαλόεντος ἀνὰ μεγάροιο μέλαθρον
 ἔζετ' ἀναξασα, χελιδόνι εἰκέλῃ ἄντην. 240

Μνηστήρας δ' ὥτρυνε Δαμαστορίδης Ἀγέλαος,
 Εὐρύνομός τε καὶ Ἀμφιμέδων Δημοπτόλεμός τε,
 Πείσανδρός τε Πολυκτορίδης Πόλυβός τε δαΐφρων·
 οἱ γὰρ μνηστήρων ἡρετῇ ἔσαν ἔξοχ' ἄριστοι,
 ὅσσοι ἔτ' ἔζωον περὶ τε ψυχίων ἐμάχοντο· 245
 τοὺς δ' ἡδὴ ἐδάμοσσε βίος καὶ ταρφέες ἰοί.
 τοῖς δ' Ἀγέλεως μετίειπεν, ἔποι πάντεσσι πιφαύσκων·

"ὦ φίλοι, ἡδὴ σχήσει ἀνὴρ ὅδε χεῖρας ἀάπτους,
 καὶ δὴ οἱ Μέντωρ μὲν ἔβη κενὰ εὐγμπα εἰπών,
 οἱ δ' οἷοι λείπονται ἐπὶ πρώτῃσι θύρῃσι. 250
 τῷ νῦν μὴ ἅμα πάντες ἐφίετε δούρατα μακρά,
 ἀλλ' ἄγεθ' οἱ ξέ πρώτον ἀκοντίσατ', αἷ κέ ποθι Ζεὺς
 δώῃ Ὀδυσσῆα βλήσθαι καὶ κύδος ἀρέσθαι.
 τῶν δ' ἄλλων οὐ κῆδος, ἐπὴν οὗτος γε πέσῃσιν."

ὣς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκόντισαν ὥς ἐκέλευεν,

battle with the Trojans unceasingly, and many men thou slewest in dread conflict, and by thy counsel was the broad-wayed city of Priam taken. How is it that now, when thou hast come to thy house and thine own possessions, thou abrinkest with wailing from playing the man, and that against the wooers? Nay, friend, come hither and take thy stand by my side, and see my deeds, that thou mayest know what manner of man Mentor, son of Alcimus, is to repay kindness in the midst of the foe."

She spoke, but did not give him strength utterly to turn the course of the battle, but still made trial of the might and valour of Odysseus and his glorious son; and for herself, she flew up to the roof-beam of the smoky hall, and sat there in the guise of a swallow to look upon.

Now the wooers were urged on by Agelaus, son of Damastor, by Eurynomus, and Amphimedon and Demioptolemus and Pelander, son of Polyctor, and wise Polybus, for these were in vallance far the best of all the wooers who still lived and fought for their lives; but the rest the bow and the swiftly-falling arrows had by now laid low. But Agelaus spoke among them, and declared his word to all:

"Friends, now at length will this man stay his invincible hands. Lo, Mentor has gone from him, and has but uttered empty boasts, and they are left alone there at the outer doors. Therefore hurl not now upon them your long spears all at once, but come, do you six throw first in the hope that Zeus may grant that Odysseus be struck, and that we win glory. Of the rest there is no care, once he shall have fallen."

So he spoke, and they all hurled their spears, as

ἰέμενοι· τὰ δὲ πάντα ἐτώσια θῆκεν Ἀθήνη. 230
 τῶν ἄλλος μὲν σταθμὸν εὐσταθέος μεγάρου
 βεβλήκει, ἄλλος δὲ θύρην πυκινῶς ἀραρυῖαν·
 ἄλλου δ' ἐν τοίχῳ μελὴν πέσε χαλκοβάρεια.¹
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ δούρατ' ἀλεύαντο μνηστήρων, 240
 τοῖς δ' ἄρα μύθων ἤρχε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ φίλοι, ἤδη μὲν κεν ἐγὼν εἵποιμι καὶ ἄμμι
 μνηστήρων ἐς ὄμιλον ἀκόντισαι, οἳ μιν ἄσιν
 ἡμῖας ἐξεναρίξαι ἐπὶ προτέροισι κακοῖσιν."
 ὣς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκόντισαν ὀξέα δούρα.²
 ἅντα τιτυσκόμενοι· Δημοπτόλεμον μὲν Ὀδυσσεύς, 200
 Εὐρυάδην δ' ἄρα Τηλέμαχος, Ἐλατον δὲ συβώτης,
 Πείσανδρον δ' ἄρ' ἐπεφνε βοῶν ἐπιβουκόλος ἀνὴρ.
 οἳ μὲν ἐπειθ' ἅμα πάντες ὁδὰξ ἔλον ἄσπετον οὐδας,
 μνηστῆρες δ' ἀνεχώρησαν μέγ' ὀϊοιο μυχόνδε· 270
 τὰ δ' ἄρ' ἐπήϊξαν, νεκύνω δ' ἐξ ἔγχε' ἔλοντο.
 Αὐτίς δὲ μνηστῆρες ἀκόντισαν ὀξέα δούρα
 ἰέμενοι· τὰ δὲ πολλὰ ἐτώσια θῆκεν Ἀθήνη.
 τῶν ἄλλος μὲν σταθμὸν εὐσταθέος μεγάρου
 βεβλήκει, ἄλλος δὲ θύρην πυκινῶς ἀραρυῖαν· 276
 ἄλλου δ' ἐν τοίχῳ μελὴν πέσε χαλκοβάρεια.
 Ἀμφιμέδων δ' ἄρα Τηλέμαχον βύλε χεῖρ' ἐπὶ καρπῷ
 λίγδην, ἄκρον δὲ ῥινὸν δηλήσατο χαλκός.
 Κτήσιππος δ' Εὐμαιον ὑπὲρ σάκος ἐγχεῖ μακρῷ
 ὦμον ἐπέγραψεν· τὸ δ' ὑπέρπτατα, πίπτε δ' ἔραζε. 280
 τὰ δ' αὐτ' ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆα δαΐφρονα ποικιλομήτην,
 μνηστήρων ἐς ὄμιλον ἀκόντισαν ὀξέα δούρα.
 ἐνθ' αὐτ' Εὐρυδάμαντα βύλε πτολίπορθος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 Ἀμφιμέδοντα δὲ Τηλέμαχος, Πόλυβον δὲ συβώτης·

¹ Lines 237-9 (=274-6) were rejected by some of the ancient critics.

² ὀξέα δούρα : ὡς ἐκείνου ; cf. 235.

he bade, eagerly; but Athene made all vain. One man smote the door-post of the well-built hall, another the close-fitting door, another's ashens spear, heavy with bronze, struck upon the wall. But when they had avoided the spears of the wooers, first among them spoked the much-enduring goodly Odysseus:

"Friends, now I give the word that we too cast our spears into the throng of the wooers, who are minded to slay us in addition to their former wrongs."

So he spoke, and they all hurled their sharp spears with sure aim. Odysseus smote Demoptolemus, Telemachus Euryades, the swineherd Elatus, and the herdsmen of the cattle slew Peisander. So these all at the same moment bit the vast floor with their teeth, and the wooers drew back to the innermost part of the hall. But the others sprang forward and drew forth their spears from the dead bodies.

Then again the wooers hurled their sharp spears eagerly, but Athene made them vain, many as they were. One man smote the door-post of the well-built hall, another the close-fitting door, another's ashens spear, heavy with bronze, struck upon the wall. But Amphimedon smote Telemachus on the hand by the wrist, a grazing blow, and the bronze tore the surface of the skin. And Ctesippus with his long spear grazed the shoulder of Eumæus above his shield, but the spear flew over and fell upon the ground. Then once more Odysseus, the wise and crafty-minded, and his company hurled their sharp spears into the throng of the wooers, and again Odysseus, the sacker of cities, smote Eurydamas, and Telemachus Amphimedon, the swineherd Polybus,

Κτήσιππον δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα βοῶν ἐπιβουκόλος ἀνὴρ 285
 βεβλήκει πρὸς στήθος, ἐπενχόμενος δὲ προσηύδα·

“ὦ Πολυθερσεῖδῃ φιλοκέρτομε, μὴ ποτε πάμπαν
 εἰκὼν ἀφραδίης μέγα εἰπεῖν, ἀλλὰ θεοῖσιν
 μῦθον ἐπιτρέψαι, ἐπεὶ ἡ πολὺ φέρτεροί εἰσι,
 τοῦτό ται ἀντὶ ποδὸς ξεινήιον, ὅν ποτ' ἔδωκας 290
 ἀντιθέω Ὀδυσῇ δόμον κίτ' ἀλητεύοντι.”

Ἦ ῥα βοῶν ἐλίκων ἐπιβουκόλος· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 οὐτα Δαμαστορίδην αὐτοσχεδὸν ἔγχεϊ μακρῷ.
 Τηλέμαχος δ' Εὐηνορίδην Λειώκριτον οὐτα
 δουρὶ μέσον κενεῶνα, διαπρὸ δὲ χαλκὸν ἔλασσε· 295
 ἤριπε δὲ πρηνής, χθόνα δ' ἤλασε παντὶ μετώπῳ.
 δὴ τότε Ἀθηναίῃ φθισίμβροτον αἰγίδ' ἀνέσχευ
 ὑψόθεν ἐξ ὀροφῆς· τῶν δὲ φρένες ἐπτολήθεν.
 οἱ δ' ἐφέβοντο κατὰ μέγαρον βόες ὡς ἀγελαῖαι
 τὰς μὲν τ' αἰδῶλος οἰστρος ἐφορμηθεὶς ἐδόνησεν 300
 ὦρῃ ἐν εἰαρινῇ, ὅτε τ' ἤματα μακρὰ πέλονται.
 οἱ δ' ὥς τ' αἰγυπιοὶ γαμψώνυχες ἀγκυλοχεῖλαι,
 ἐξ ὀρέων ἐλθόντες ἐπ' ὀρνίθεσσι θόρῳσι·
 ταῖ μὲν τ' ἐν πεδίῳ νέφεα πτώσσουσαι ἵενται,
 οἱ δέ τε τὰς ὀλέκουσιν ἐπάλμενοι, οὐδέ τις ἡλκῇ 305
 γίγνεται οὐδὲ φυγὴ· χαίρουσι δέ τ' ἀνέρες ἄγρῃ·
 ὥς ἄρα τοὶ μνηστῆρας ἐπεσσύμενοι κατὰ δῶμα
 τύπτον ἐπιστροφάδην· τῶν δὲ στόνος ὦρνυτ' ἀεικῆς
 κρύτων τυπτομένων, δάπεδον δ' ἅπαν αἵματι θύει.

Λειώδης δ' Ὀδυσῆος ἐπεσσύμενος λάβε γούνων, 310
 καὶ μιν λισσόμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

and thereafter the herdsman of the cattle smote Ctesippus in the breast, and boasted over him, saying:

"Son of Polythereses, thou lover of revilings, never more at all do thou speak big, yielding to folly, but leave the matter to the gods, since verily they are mightier far. This is thy gift of weltronic to match the hoof which of late thou gavest to godlike Odysseus, when he went begging through the house."

So spoke the herdsman of the sleek cattle. But Odysseus wounded the son of Damastor in close fight with a thrust of his long spear, and Telemachus wounded Leiocritus, son of Euenor, with a spear-thrust full upon the groin, and drove the bronze clean through, and he fell headlong and struck the ground full with his forehead. Then Athene held up her aegis, the bane of mortals, on high from the roof, and the minds of the wooers were panic-stricken, and they fled through the halls like a herd of kine that the darting gad-fly falls upon and drives along in the season of spring, when the long days come. And even as vultures of crooked talons and curved beaks come forth from the mountains and dart upon smaller birds, which scour the plain, flying low beneath the clouds, and the vultures pounce upon them and slay them, and they have no defence or way of escape, and men rejoice at the chase; even so did those others set upon the wooers and smite them left and right through the hall. And therefrom rose hideous groaning as heads were smitten, and all the floor swam with blood.

But Lelodes rushed forward and clasped the knees of Odysseus, and made entreaty to him, and spoke winged words:

"Γουνουμαί σ', Ὀδυσσεύ· σὺ δέ μ' αἶδεο καί μ' ἐλέησον·
 οὐ γάρ πῶ τινά φημι γυναικῶν ἐν μεγάροισιν
 εἰπεῖν οὐδέ τι ῥέξαι ἀτάσθαλον· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἄλλους
 παύεσκον μνηστήρας, ὅτις τοιαῦτά γε ῥέξοι. 315
 ἀλλὰ μοι οὐ πείθοντο κακῶν ἀπο χειῖρας ἔχουσθαι·
 τῷ καὶ ἀτασθαλίῃσιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐπέσπον.
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ μετὰ τοῖσι θυοσκόος οὐδὲν ἰοργῶς
 κείσομαι, ὥς οὐκ ἔστι χύρις μετόπισθ' εὐεργέων·"

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Ἢ μὲν δὴ μετὰ τοῖσι θυοσκόος εὐχεαί εἶναι, 321
 πολλάκι που μέλλεις ἀρήμεναι ἐν μεγάροισι
 τηλοῦ ἔμοι νόστοιο τέλος γλυκεροῖο γενέσθαι,
 σοὶ δ' ἄλοχόν τε φίλιν σπένσθαι καὶ τέκνα τεκέσθαι·
 τῷ οὐκ ἂν θανάτῳ γε δυσηλεγία προφύγοισθα." 325

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ξίφος εἵλετο χειρὶ παχείῃ
 κείμενον, ὃ ῥ' Ἀγέλαός ἀποπροέηκε χαμᾶζε
 κτεινόμενος· τῷ τὸν γε κατ' αὐχένα μέσσον ἔλασσε.
 φθεγγομένου δ' ἄρα τοῦ γε κίρῃ κονίησιν ἐμήχθη.

Τερπιάδης δ' ἐτ' ὕμνους ἀλύσκανε κῆρα μέλαιναν, 330
 Φήμιος, ὃς ῥ' ἤειδε μετὰ μνηστήρσιν ἀνάγκη.
 ἔσθι δ' ἐν χεῖρεσσιν ἔχων φόρμιγγα λίγεια
 ἄγχι παρ' ὀρσοθύρῃ· δίχα δέ φρεσὶ μερμήριζεν,
 ἢ ἐκδύς μεγάροιο Διὸς μεγάλῳ ποτὶ βωμόν
 ἔρκειον ἵκοιτο τετυγμένον, εἰθ' ὅρα πολλά 335
 Λαέρτης Ὀδυσσεύς τε βοῶν ἐπὶ μῆρ' ἔκταν,
 ἢ γούνων λίσσοιτο προσαίξας Ὀδυσῆα.

"I beseech thee by thy knees, Odysseus, and do thou respect me and have pity. For I declare to thee that never yet have I wronged one of the women in thy halls by wanton word or deed; nay, I sought to check the other wooers, when any would do such deeds. But they would not hearken to me to withhold their hands from evil, wherefore through their wanton folly they have met a cruel doom. Yet I, the soothsayer among them, that have done no wrong, shall be laid low even as they; so true is it that there is no gratitude in aftertime for good deeds done."

Then with an angry glance from beneath his brows Odysseus of many wiles answered him: "If verily thou dost declare thyself the soothsayer among these men, often, I ween, must thou have prayed in the halls that far from me the issue of a joyous return might be removed, and that it might be with thee that my dear wife should go and bear thee children; wherefore thou shalt not escape grievous death."

So saying, he seized in his strong hand a sword that lay near, which Agelaus had let fall to the ground when he was slain, and with this he smote him full upon the neck. And even while he was yet speaking his head was mingled with the dust.

Now the son of Teires, the minstrel, was still seeking to escape black fate, even Pheonius, who sang perforce among the wooers. He stood with the clear-toned lyre in his hands near the postern door, and he was divided in mind whether he should slip out from the hall and sit down by the well-built altar of great Zeus, the God of the court, whereon Laertes and Odysseus had burned many thighs of oxen, or whether he should rush forward and elasp

ὧδε δὲ οἱ φρονέοντι δοῦσασατο κέρδιον εἶναι,
 γούνων ἄψασθαι Λαερτιάδῃσι Ὀδυσῆος.
 ἦ τοι ὁ φόρμιγγα γλαφυρὴν κατέθηκε χαμᾶζε 340
 μεσσηγὺς κρητῆρος ἰδὲ θρόνον ἀργυροήλον,
 αὐτὸς δ' αὖτ' Ὀδυσῆα προσαίξας λάβε γούνων,
 καὶ μιν λισσόμενος ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
 "Γουνοῦμαί σ', Ὀδυσσεῦ· σὺ δέ μ' αἶδεο καὶ μ' ἐλέησον·
 αὐτῷ τοι μετόπισθ' ἄχος ἔσσεται, εἴ κεν ἰοιδὸν 345
 πέφνης, ὃς τε θεοῖσι καὶ ἀνθρώποισιν αἰεῖδω.
 αὐτοεἰδακτος δ' εἰμὶ, θεὸς δέ μοι ἐν φρεσὶν οἶμας
 παντοίας ἐνέφυσεν· ἔοικα δέ τοι παραεῖδειν
 ὥς τε θεῶν τῷ μὴ με λιλαίεο δειροτομήσαι.
 καὶ κεν Τηλέμαχος τάδε γ' εἶποι, σὸς φίλος υἱός, 350
 ὥς ἐγὼ οὐ τι ἐκὼν ἐς σὸν δόμον οὐδὲ χατίζων
 πωλεύμην μνηστῆρσιν αἰετούμενος μετὰ δαίτας.
 ἀλλὰ πολὺ πλέονες καὶ κρείσσονες ἦγον ἀνάγκη."
 "Ὡς φάτο, τοῦ δ' ἤκουσ' ἱερὴ ἱς Τηλεμάχοιο,
 αἶψα δ' ἐὼν πατέρα προσεφώνεν ἐγγὺς ἔοντα· 355
 "Ἰσχεο μηδέ τι τοῦτον ἀναίτιον οὔτις χαλκῷ
 καὶ κήρυκα Μέδοντα σωῶσομεν, ὅς τέ μιν αἰεὶ
 οἴκῳ ἐν ἡμετέρῳ κηδέσκετο παῖδός ἐόντος,
 εἰ δὴ μὴ μιν ἔπεφνε Φιλοίτιος ἠὲ συβώτης,
 ἠὲ σοὶ ἀντεβόλησεν ὀρινομένην κατὰ δῶμα." 360
 "Ὡς φάτο, τοῦ δ' ἤκουσε Μέδων πεπνυμένα εἰδώς·
 πεπτηώς γάρ ἐκειτο ὑπὸ θρόνον, ἀμφὶ δὲ δέρμα
 ἕστο βοῆς νεόδαρτον, ἀλύσκων κῆρα μέλαιναν.
 αἶψα δ' ἀπὸ θρόνου ὤρτο, θοῶς δ' ἀπέδυνε βοείην
 Τηλέμαχον δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα προσαίξας λάβε γούνων, 365
 καὶ μιν λισσόμενος ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

the knees of Odysseus in prayer. And as he pondered this seemed to him the better course, to clasp the knees of Odysseus, son of Laertes. So he laid the hollow lyre on the ground between the mixing-bowl and the silver-studded chair, and himself rushed forward and clasped Odysseus by the knees, and made entreaty to him, and spoke winged words:

"By thy knees I beseech thee, Odysseus, and do thou respect me and have pity; on thine own self shall sorrow come hereafter, if thou slayest the minstrel, even me, who sing to gods and men. Self-taught am I, and the god has planted in my heart all manner of lays, and worthy am I to sing to thee as to a god; wherefore be not eager to cut my throat. Aye, and Telemachus too will bear witness to this, thy dear son, how that through no will or desire of mine I was wont to resort to thy house to sing to the wooers at their feasts, but they, being far more and stronger, led me hither perforce."

So he spoke, and the strong and mighty Telemachus heard him, and quickly spoke to his father, who was near:

"Stay thy hand, and do not wound this guiltless man with the sword. Aye, and let us save also the herald, Medon, who ever cared for me in our house, when I was a child—unless perchance Philoctetus has already slain him, or the swineherd, or he met thee as thou didst rage through the house."

So he spoke, and Medon, wise of heart, heard him, for he lay crouching beneath a chair, and had clothed himself in the skin of an ox, newly flayed, seeking to avoid black fate. Straightway he rose from beneath the chair and stripped off the ox-hide, and then rushed forward and clasped Telemachus by the knees, and made entreaty to him, and spoke winged words:

“ὦ φίλ', ἐγὼ μὲν δδ' εἰμὶ, σὺ δ' ἴσχεο· εἰπέ δὲ πατρί
μή με περισθενέων δηλήσεται· ὅξεί χαλκῷ,
ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων κεχολωμένος, οἱ οἱ ἔκειρον
κτῆματ' ἐνὶ μεγάροις, σὲ δὲ νῆπιοι οὐδὲν ἔτιον.” 370

Τὸν δ' ἐπιμειδήσας προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
“Θάρσει, ἐπεὶ δὴ σ' οὔτος ἐρύσσατο καὶ ἐσάωσεν,
ὄφρα γνῶς κατὰ θυμόν, ἀτὰρ εἶπῃσθα καὶ ἄλλω,
ὥς κακοεργίης εὐεργεσίῃ μέγ' ἀμείνων.
ἀλλ' ἐξελθόντες μεγάρων ἔξεσθε θύραζε 375
ἐκ φόνου εἰς αὐλήν, σὺ τε καὶ πολύφημος ἰοιδός,
ὄφρ' ἂν ἐγὼ κατὰ δῶμα πονήσομαι ὅττεός με χρή.”

ὣς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἔξω βίητην μεγάροιο κίοντε,
ἐξίσθην δ' ἄρα τῷ γε Διὸς μεγάλου ποτὶ βωμόν,
πάντοσε παπταίνοντε, φόνον ποτιδεγμένῳ αἰεὶ. 380
πάπτηνεν δ' Ὀδυσσεύς καθ' ἑὸν δόμον, εἴ τις ἔτ' ἀνδρῶν
ζῶος ὑποκλοπέοιτο, ἰλυσκῶν κῆρα μέλαιναν.
τοὺς δὲ ἶδεν μάλα πάντας ἐν αἵματι καὶ κονίῃσι
πεπτεῶτας πολλούς, ὥστ' ἰχθύας, οὓς θ' ἰλγῆες
κοῖλον ἐς αἰγιαλὸν πολεῆς ἔκτοσθε θαλίᾳσσης 385
δικτύῳ ἐξέριψαν πολυπηῶ· οἱ δὲ τε πάντες
κύμαθ' ἰλὸς ποθέοντες ἐπὶ ψαμάθοισι κέχυνται·
τῶν μὲν τ' Ἠέλιος φαέθων ἐξείλετο θυμόν·
ὥς τότε ἄρα μνηστήρες ἐπ' ἰλλήλοισι κέχυντο.

δὴ τότε Τηλέμαχον προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς· 390

“Τηλέμαχ', εἰ δ' ἄγε μοι κἄλεσον τροφὸν Εὐρύκλειαν,
ὄφρα ἔπος εἰπῶμι τό μοι καταθύμιόν ἐστιν.”

ὣς φάτο, Τηλέμαχος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεπείθετο πατρί,
κινήσας δὲ θύρην προσέφη τροφὸν Εὐρύκλειαν·

“Δεῦρο δὴ ὄρσο, γρη῏ παλαιγενές, ἧ τε γυναικῶν 395
δμῳάων σκοπὸς ἐσσι κατὰ μέγαρ' ἡμετεράων
ἔρχεο· κικλήσκει σε πατὴρ ἐμός, ὄφρα τι εἴπῃ.”

"Friend, here I am; stay thou thy hand and bid thy father stay his, lest in the greatness of his might he harm me with the sharp bronze in his wrath against the wooers, who wasted his possessions in the halls, and in their folly honoured thee not at all."

But Odysseus of many wiles smiled, and said to him: "Be of good cheer, for he has delivered thee and saved thee, that thou mayest know in thy heart and tell also to another, how far better is the doing of good deeds than of evil. But go forth from the halls and sit down outside in the court away from the slaughter, thou and the minstrel of many songs, till I shall have finished all that I must needs do in the house."

So he spoke, and the two went their way forth from the hall and sat down by the altar of great Zeus, gazing about on every side, ever-expecting death. And Odysseus too gazed about all through his house to see if any man yet lived, and was hiding there, seeking to avoid black fate. But he found them one and all fallen in the blood and dust—all the host of them, like fishes that fishermen have drawn forth in the meshes of their net from the grey sea upon the curving beach, and they all lie heaped upon the sand, longing for the waves of the sea, and the bright sun takes away their life; even so now the wooers lay heaped upon each other. Then Odysseus of many wiles spoke to Telemachus:

"Telemachus, go call me the nurse Eurycleia, that I may tell her the word that is in my mind."

So he spoke, and Telemachus hearkened to his dear father, and shaking the door said to Eurycleia:

"Up and hither, aged wife, that hast charge of all our woman servants in the halls. Come, my father calls thee, that he may tell thee somewhat."

ὣς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν, τῇ δ' ἄπτερος ἐπλετο μῦθος,
 ὦϊξεν δὲ θύρας μεγάρων εὐ ναιετάοντων,
 βῆ δ' ἵμεν· αὐτὰρ Τηλέμαχος πρόσθ' ἡγεμόνευεν. 400
 εὖρεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα μετὰ κταμένοισι νέκυσσιν,
 αἵματι καὶ λίθῳ πεπαλαγμένον ὥστε λόντα,
 ὃς ῥά τε βεβρωκὼς βοδὸς ἔρχεται ἀγραύλοιο·
 πᾶν δ' ἄρα οἱ στήθός τε παρήϊά τ' ἀμφοτέρωθεν
 αἱματόευντα πέλει, δεινὸς δ' εἰς ὧπα ιδέσθαι. 405
 ὥς Ὀδυσσεὺς πεπᾶλακτο πόδας καὶ χεῖρας ὑπερθεν.
 ἦ δ' ὥς οὖν νέκυός τε καὶ ἄσπετον εἰσίδεν αἶμα,
 ἰδυσέν ῥ' ὀλολύξαι, ἐπεὶ μέγα εἰσίδεν ἔργον·
 ἀλλ' Ὀδυσσεὺς κατέρυκε καὶ ἔσχεθεν ἱεμένην περ,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα. 410

"Ἐν θυμῷ, γρηῦ, χαῖρε καὶ ἴσχεο μῆδ' ὀλόλυξε·
 οὐχ ὅσι' κταμένοισιν ἐπ' ἀνδράσιν εὐχετάσθαι.
 τοῦσδε δὲ μοῖρ' ἐδάμασσε θεῶν καὶ σχέτλια ἔργα·
 οὐ τινα γὰρ τίεσκον ἐπιχθονίων ἀνθρώπων,
 οὐ κακὸν οὐδὲ μὲν ἐσθλόν, ὅτις σφέας εἰσαφίκοιτο. 415
 τῷ καὶ ἀτασθαλίῃσιν ἀεικέα πύτμον ἐπέσπον.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι σὺ γυναῖκας ἐνὶ μεγάροις κατιύλεξον,
 αἷ τέ μ' ὑτιμύζουσι καὶ αἷ νηλεΐτιδές εἰσιν."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια·
 "τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι, τέκνον, ἀληθείην καταλέξω. 420
 πεντήκοντά τοι εἰσιν ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γυναῖκες
 θυγαῖ, τὰς μὲν τ' ἔργα διδάξωμεν ἐργάζεσθαι,
 εἰρήν τε ξαίνειν καὶ δουλοσύνην ἀνέχεσθαι·
 τῶν δώδεκα πᾶσαι ἀναιδείης ἐπέβησαν,
 οὐτ' ἐμὲ τίουσαι οὐτ' αὐτὴν Πηνελόπειαν. 425
 Τηλέμαχος δὲ νέον μὲν ἡέξετο, οὐδὲ δ' μήτηρ

So he spoke, but her word remained unwinged; she opened the doors of the stately hall, and came forth, and Telemachus led the way before her. There she found Odysseus amid the bodies of the slain, all befouled with blood and filth, like a lion that comes from feeding on an ox of the farmstead, and all his breast and his cheeks on either side are stained with blood, and he is terrible to look upon; even so was Odysseus befouled, his feet and his hands above. But she, when she beheld the corpses and the great welter of blood, made ready to utter loud cries of joy, seeing what a deed had been wrought. But Odysseus stayed and checked her in her eagerness, and spoke and addressed her with winged words:

"In thine own heart rejoice, old dame, but refrain thyself and cry not out aloud: an unholy thing is it to boast over slain men. These men here has the fate of the gods destroyed and their own reckless deeds, for they honoured no one of men upon the earth, were he evil or good, whosoever came among them; wherefore by their wanton folly they brought on themselves a shameful death. But come, name thou over to me the women in the halls, which ones dishonour me and which are guiltless."

Then the dear nurse Euryclea answered him: "Then verily, my child, will I tell thee all the truth. Fifty women servants hast thou in the halls, women that we have taught to do their work, to card the wool and bear the lot of slaves. Of these twelve in all have set their feet in the way of shamelessness, and regard not me nor Penelope herself. And Telemachus is but newly grown to manhood, and his

σημαίνειν εἶασκεν ἐπὶ δμῶῃσι γυναῖξιν.

ἀλλ' ἄγ' ἐγὼν ἀναβᾶσ' ὑπερώϊα σιγαλόδεντα

εἶπω σὴ ἀλόχῳ, τῇ τις θεὸς ὕπνον ἐπῶρσε."¹

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

“Μὴ πῶ τήνδ' ἐπέχειρ' σὺ δ' ἐνθάδε εἰπέ γυναῖξιν 431

ἐλθέμεν, αἷ περ πρόσθεν ἁεικέα μηχανόωντο.”

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, γρη῏ς δὲ διέκ μεγύροιο βεβήκει

ἀγγελέουσα γυναῖξι καὶ ὄτρυνέουσα νέεσθαι,

αὐτὰρ ὁ Ἰηλέμαχον καὶ βουκόλον ἠδὲ συβώτην 435

εἰς ἧ καλεσσάμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Ἄρχετε νῦν νέκρας φορέειν καὶ ἄνωχθε γυναῖκας·

αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα θρόνους περικαλλέας ἠδὲ τραπέζας

ἔδατι καὶ σπύργοισι πολυτρήτοισι καθαίρειν.

αὐτὰρ ἐπὴν δὴ πάντα δόμον κατακοσμήσησθε, 440

δμῶας ἐξαγαγόντες εὖσταθὲς μεγάροιο,

μεσσηγὺς τε θύλον καὶ ἀμύμονος ἔρκεος αὐλῆς,

θεινέμεναι ξίφεσιν ταυυήκεσιν, εἰς ὃ κε πασέων

ψυχῶς ἐξαφέλησθε καὶ ἐκλελιθῶντ' Ἀφροδίτης,

τὴν ἄρ' ὑπὸ μνηστῆρσιν ἔχον μίσγοιτό τε λάβρην.” 445

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', αἱ δὲ γυναῖκες ἑολλέες ἦλθον ἵπασαι,

αἶν' ὀλοφυρόμεναι, θαλερὸν κατὰ δάκρυ χέουσαι,

πρῶτα μὲν οὖν νέκρας φόρεον κατατεθνηῶτας,

καὶ δ' ἄρ' ὑπ' αἰθούσῃ τίθεσιν εἰερκέος αὐλῆς,

ἀλλήλοισιν ἐρείδουσαι· σήμαινε δ' Ὀδυσσεύς 450

αὐτὸς ἐπισπέρχων·² ταῖ δ' ἐκφόρεον καὶ ἀνάγκη,

αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα θρόνους περικαλλέας ἠδὲ τροπέζας

ἔδατι καὶ σπύργοισι πολυτρήτοισι κάθαιρον.

¹ ἐπῶρσε: ἔχρησε.

² ἐπισπέρχων: ἐπιστρέφων.

mother would not suffer him to rule over the women servants. But come, let me go up to the bright upper chamber and bear word to thy wife, on whom some god has sent sleep."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Wake her not yet, but do thou bid come hither the women, who in time past have contrived shameful deeds."

So he spoke, and the old dame went forth through the hall to bear tidings to the women, and bid them come; but Odysseus called to him Telemachus and the neatherd and the swineherd, and spoke to them winged words:

"Begin now to bear forth the dead bodies and bid the women help you, and thereafter cleanse the beautiful chairs and the tables with water and porous sponges. But when you have set all the house in order, lead the women forth from the well-built hall to a place between the dome¹ and the goodly fence of the court, and there strike them down with your long swords, until you take away the life from them all, and they forget the love which they had at the bidding of the wooers, when they lay with them in secret."

So he spoke, and the women came all in a throng, wailing terribly and shedding big tears. First they bore forth the bodies of the slain and set them down beneath the portico of the well-fenced court, propping them one against the other; and Odysseus himself gave them orders and hastened on the work, and they bore the bodies forth perforce. Then they cleansed the beautiful high seats and the tables with

¹ It is impossible to determine precisely what the *σάλας* was, save that it must have been some dome-like structure within the *αἶθρᾱ*.

αὐτὰρ Τηλέμαχος καὶ βουκόλος ἡδὲ συβώτης
 λίστροισιν δάπεδον πύκα ποιητοῖο δόμοιο 455
 ξύον· ταί δ' ἐφόρεον ἐμφαί, τίθισαν δὲ θύραζε.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπειδὴ πᾶν μέγαρον διεκοσμήσαντο,
 δμῶας δ' ἐξαγαγόντες εὐσταθέος μεγάροιο,
 μεσσηγὺς τε θέλουν καὶ ἡμύμονος ἔρκεις αὐλῆς,
 εἴλεον ἐν στείνει, ὅθεν οὐ πῶς ἦεν ἀλύξαι. 460
 τοῖσι δὲ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἦρχ' ὠγορεύειν·

“Μὴ μὲν δὴ καθαρῷ θανάτῳ ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἐλοίμην
 τάων, αἱ δὲ ἐμῇ κεφαλῇ κατ' ὀνείδεα χεῖραν
 μητέρι θ' ἡμετέρῃ παρὰ τε μνηστῆρσιν ἱανον.”

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ πείσμα κῆδος κυανοπρώροιο 465
 κίονος ἐξάψας μεγάλης περίβαλλε θόλοιο,
 ὑψόσ' ἐπεντανύσας, μή τις ποσὶν οὔδας ἴκοιτο.
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἡ κίχλαι τανυσίπτεροι ἢ πέλειαι
 ἔρκει ἐνιπλήξωσι, τό θ' ἐστήκη ἐνὶ θάμνῳ,
 αὐλὴν ἐσιέμεναι, στυγερὸς δ' ὑπεδέξατο κοῖτος, 470
 ὥς αἱ γ' ἐξείης κεφαλὰς ἔχον, ἀμφὶ δὲ πάσαις
 δειρῇσι βρόχοι ἦσαν, ὅπως οἴκτιστα θύνοισεν.
 ἦσπαιρον δὲ πόδεσσι μίνυνθά περ οὐ τι μάλα δῆν,

Ἐκ δὲ Μελάμβριον ἦγον ἀνὰ πρόθυρόν τε καὶ αὐλὴν·
 τοῦ δ' ἀπὸ μὲν ῥινῆς τε καὶ οὐατα νηλεὲς χαλκῷ 475
 τάμνον, μήδεά τ' ἐξέρυσαν, κυσὶν ὠμὰ δάσασθαι,
 χεῖράς τ' ἡδὲ πόδας κόπτον κεκοτηῷ θυμῷ.

Οἱ μὲν ἔπειτ' ἀπονιψάμενοι χεῖράς τε πόδας τε
 εἰς Ὀδυσῆα δόμονδε κίον, τετέλεστο δὲ ἔργον·
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γε προσέειπε φίλην τροφὸν Εὐρύκλειαν· 480

water and porous sponges. But Telemachus and the neatherd and the swineherd scraped with hoes the floor of the well-built house, and the women bore the scrapings forth and threw them out of doors. But when they had set in order all the hall, they led the women forth from the well-built hall to a place between the dome and the goodly fence of the court, and shut them up in a narrow space, whence it was in no wise possible to escape. Then wise Telemachus was the first to speak to the others, saying:

"Let it be by no clean death that I take the lives of these women, who on my own head have poured reproaches and on my mother, and were wont to lie with the wooers."

So he spoke, and tied the cable of a dark-prowed ship to a great pillar and flung it round the dome, stretching it on high that none might reach the ground with her feet. And as when long-winged thrushes or doves fall into a snare that is set in a thicket, as they seek to reach their resting-place, and hateful is the bed that gives them welcome, even so the women held their heads in a row, and round the necks of all nooses were laid, that they might die most piteously. And they writhed a little while with their feet, but not long.

Then forth they led Melanthius through the doorway and the court, and cut off his nostrils and his ears with the pitiless bronze, and drew out his vitals for the dogs to eat raw, and cut off his hands and his feet in their furious wrath.

Thereafter they washed their hands and feet, and went into the house to Odysseus, and the work was done. But Odysseus said to the dear nurse

"Οἷσε θείιον, γρη῏, κακῶν ἄκος, οἷσε δέ μοι πῦρ,
 δῶρα θεειῶσω μέγαρον· σὺ δὲ Πηνελόπειαν
 ἔλθειν ἐνθάδ' ἄνωχθι σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξί·
 πάσας δ' ὄτρυνον δμῶας κατὰ δῶμα νέεσθαι."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια· 495
 "Ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε, τέκνον ἐμόν, κατὰ μοῖραν εἶπες.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε τοι χλαῖνάν τε χιτῶνά τε εἴματ' ἐνείκω,
 μῆδ' οὕτω ῥά κεισιν πεπυκασμένος εὐρέας ὤμους
 ἵσταθ' ἐνὶ μεγάροισι· νεμεσσητῶν δέ κεν εἴη."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Πῦρ νῦν μοι πρῶτιστον ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γενέσθω." 401
 "Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε φίλη τροφὸς¹ Εὐρύκλεια,
 ἤνεικεν δ' ἄρα πῦρ καὶ θήιον· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς
 εὖ διεθείωσεν μέγαρον καὶ δῶμα καὶ αὐλήν.

Γρη῏ς δ' αὐτ' ἀπέβη διὰ δῶματα κάλ' Ὀδυσῆος 495
 ἀγγελέουσα γυναιξὶ καὶ ὄτρυνέουσα νέεσθαι·
 αἱ δ' ἴσαν ἐκ μεγάροιο δῆος μετὰ χερσὶν ἔχουσαι.
 αἱ μὲν ἄρ' ἀμφεχέοντο καὶ ἡσπάζοντ' Ὀδυσῆα,
 καὶ κύεον ἀγαπαζόμεναι κεφαλὴν τε καὶ ὤμους
 χεῖρας τ' αἰνύμεναι· τὸν δὲ γλυκὺς ἔμερος ἦρει 500
 κλαυθμοῦ καὶ στοναχῆς, γίγνωσκε δ' ἄρα φρεσὶ πύσας.

¹ φίλη τροφός: περίφρων.

Eurycleia: "Bring sulphur, old dame, to cleanse from pollution, and bring me fire, that I may purge the hall; and do thou bid Penelope come hither with her handmaidens, and order all the women in the house to come."

Then the dear nurse Eurycleia answered him: "Yea, all this, my child, hast thou spoken aright. But come, let me bring thee a cloak and a tunic for raiment, and do not thou stand thus in the halls with thy broad shoulders wrapped in rags; that were a cause for blame."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered her: "First of all let a fire now be made me in the hall."

So he spoke, and the dear nurse Eurycleia did not disobey, but brought fire and sulphur; but Odysseus thoroughly purged the hall and the house and the court.

Then the old dame went back through the fair house of Odysseus to bear tidings to the women and bid them come; and they came forth from their hall with torches in their hands. They thronged about Odysseus and embraced him, and clasped and kissed his head and shoulders and his hands in loving welcome; and a sweet longing seized him to weep and wail, for in his heart he knew them all.

Γρηθς δ' εἰς ὑπερῷ' ἀνεβήσεται καυχалоώσα,
 δεσποίνῃ ἐρέουσα φίλον πόσιν ἔνδον ἔοντα·
 γούνατα δ' ἐρρώσαντο, πόδες δ' ὑπερικταίνοντο.
 στή δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·

“Ἐγρεο, Πηνελόπεια, φίλον τέκος, ὄφρα ἴδῃαι
 ὀφθαλμοῖσι τεοῖσι τὰ τ' ἔλδῃαι ἤματα πάντα.
 ἦλθ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ οἶκον ἱκάνεται, ὃψέ περ ἐλθῶν.
 μνηστῆρας δ' ἔκτεινεν ἀγῆνορας, οἳ θ' ἔδν οἶκον
 κήδεσσκον καὶ κτήματ' ἔδον βιώωντό τε παῖδα.”

Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 “Μαῖα φίλη, μάργην σε θεοὶ θέσαν, οἳ τε δύνανται
 ἄφρονα ποιῆσαι καὶ ἐπίφρονί περ μάλ' ἔοντα,
 καὶ τε χαλιφρονέοντα σαοφροσύνης ἐπέβησαν
 οἳ σέ περ ἔβλαψαν· πρὶν δὲ φρένας αἰσίμῃ ἦσθα.
 τίπτε με λωβεύεις πολυπενθέα θυμὸν ἔχουσαν
 ταῦτα παρὲξ ἐρέουσα καὶ ἐξ ὕπνου μ' ἀνεγείρεις
 ἡδέος, ὃς μ' ἐπέδησε φίλα βλέφαρ' ἀμφικαλύψας;
 οὐ γάρ πω τοιόνδε κατέδραθον, ἐξ οὗ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ᾤχετ' ἐποψόμενος Κακοῖλιον οὐκ ὀνομαστήν.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν κατάβηθι καὶ ἄψ' ἔρχεαι μέγαρόνδε.
 εἰ γάρ τίς μ' ἄλλη γε γυναικῶν, αἷ μοι ἕασι,

BOOK XXIII

THEN the old dame went up to the upper chamber, laughing aloud, to tell her mistress that her dear husband was in the house. Her knees moved nimbly, but her feet stumbled beneath her;¹ and she stood above her lady's head, and spoke to her, and said :

"Awake, Penelope, dear child, that with thine own eyes thou mayest see what thou desirest all thy days. Odysseus is here, and has come home, late though his coming has been, and has slain the proud wooers who vexed his house, and devoured his substance, and oppressed his son."

Then wise Penelope answered her : "Dear nurse, the gods have made thee mad, they who can make foolish even one who is full wise, and set the simple-minded in the paths of understanding; it is they that have marred thy wits, though heretofore thou wast sound of mind. Why dost thou mock me, who have a heart full of sorrow, to tell me this wild tale, and dost rouse me out of slumber, the sweet slumber that bound me and enfolded my eyelids? For never yet have I slept so sound since the day when Odysseus went forth to see evil Ilios that should not be named. Nay come now, go down and back to the women's hall, for if any other of the women that are

¹ The meaning of *εὐσπέραιρος* has to be inferred from the context. The poet means apparently to mark at once the eager impulse of the old woman and the feebleness of age. I assume that the first element in the word is *εὐδ*, not *εὐί*.

ταῦτ' ἔλθοῦς ἡγγεῖλε καὶ ἐξ ὕπνου ἀνέγειρεν,
τῷ κε τάχα στυγερώς μιν ἐγὼν ἀπέπεμψα νέεσθαι
αὐτὶς ἔσω μέγαρον· σὲ δὲ τοῦτό γε γῆρας ὀνήσει."

Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια· 23
"Οὐ τί σε λωβεύω, τέκνον φίλον, ἀλλ' ἔτυμόν τοι
ἦλθ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ οἶκον ἰκάνεται, ὥς ἀγορεύω,
ὁ ξεῖνος, τὸν πάντες ἀτίμων ἐν μεγάροισι.
Τηλέμαχος δ' ἄρα μιν πάλαι ᾔδειεν ἐνδον ἑόντα,
ἀλλὰ σαιοφροσύνησι νοήματα πατρὸς ἔκευθεν, 30
ὄφρ' ἀνδρῶν τίσαιτο βίην ὑπερηνορέοντων."

Ὡς ἔφαθ', ἡ δ' ἐχάρη καὶ ἀπὸ λέκτροιο βοοῦσα
γρηῖτ' περιπλέχθη, βλεφάρων δ' ἀπὸ δάκρυον ἦκεν·
καὶ μιν φωνήσασ' ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

"Εἰ δ' ἄγε δῆ μοι, μαῖα φίλη, νημερτὲς ἐνίσπες, 35
εἰ ἐτεόν δῆ οἶκον ἰκάνεται, ὥς ἀγορεύεις,
ὅπως δῆ μνηστῆροιν ἀναιδέσι χεῖρας ἐφῆκε
μοῦνος ἐὼν, οἱ δ' αἰὲν ἀολλέες ἐνδον ἔμενον."

Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια·
"Οὐκ ἴδον, οὐ πιθόμην, ἀλλὰ στόνον οἶον ἄκουσα 40
κτεινομένων· ἡμεῖς δὲ μυχῷ θαλάμων εὐπήκτων
ἡμεθ' ἀτυζόμεναι, σαπίδες δ' ἔχον εὐ ἀραρυῖαι,
πρὶν γ' ὅτε δῆ με σὸς υἱὸς ἀπὸ μεγάροιο κάλεσσε
Τηλέμαχος· τὸν γάρ ῥα πατὴρ προέθηκε καλέσσαι.
εὖρον ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα μετὰ καταμένοισι νέκυσιν 45
ἑσταόθ'· οἱ δέ μιν ἀμφί, κραταίπεδον οὐδας ἔχοντες,
κείατ' ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν· ἰδοῦσά κε θυμὸν ἰάνθης."

mine had come and told me this, and had roused me out of sleep, straightway would I have sent her back in sorry wise to return again to the hall, but to thee old age shall bring this profit."

Then the dear nurse Euryeleia answered her: "I mock thee not, dear child, but in very truth Odysseus is here, and has come home, even as I tell thee. He is that stranger to whom all men did dishonour in the halls. But Telemachus long ago knew that he was here, yet in his prudence he hid the purpose of his father, till he should take vengeance on the violence of overweening men."

So she spoke, and Penelope was glad, and she leapt from her bed and flung her arms about the old woman and let the tears fall from her eyelids; and she spoke, and addressed her with winged words:

"Come now, dear nurse, I pray thee tell me truly, if verily he has come home, as thou sayest, how he put forth his hands upon the shameless wooers, all alone as he was, while they remained always in a body in the house."

Then the dear nurse Euryeleia answered her: "I saw not, I asked not; only I heard the groaning of men that were being slain. As for us women, we sat terror-stricken in the innermost part of our well-built chambers, and the close-fitting doors shut us in, until the hour when thy son Telemachus called me from the hall, for his father had sent him forth to call me. Then I found Odysseus standing among the bodies of the slain, and they, stretched all around him on the hard floor, lay one upon the other; the sight would have warmed thy heart with cheer.¹

¹ The spurious line 45, αἶματι καὶ λείψματι πενταλαγμένον ἐσὶ τοῖς λείψμασι (= xxii. 402), has been omitted in translating.

νῦν δ' αἱ μὲν δὴ πάντες ἐπ' αὐλείῃσι θύρῃσιν
 ἀθρόοι, αὐτὰρ ὁ δῶμα θεοιοῦται περικαλλές, 50
 πῦρ μέγα κηάμενος· σὲ δέ με προέηκε καλέσσαι.
 ἀλλ' ἔπευ, ὄφρα ὄφωῖν εὐφροσύνης ἐπιβήτον
 ἀμφοτέρω φίλον ἦτορ, ἐπεὶ κακὰ πολλὰ πέποσθε.
 νῦν δ' ἤδη τόδε μακρὸν ἐλδωρ ἐκτετέλεσται·
 ἦλθε μὲν αὐτὸς ζωὸς ἐφέστιος, εὖρε δέ καὶ σέ 55
 καὶ παῖδ' ἐν μεγάροισι· κακῶς δ' οἷ πέρ μιν ἔρεζον
 μνηστῆρες, τοὺς πάντας ἐτίσατο ᾧ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ."

Τὴν δ' αἶτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Μαῖα φίλη, μὴ πῶ μὲν' ἐπεύχεο καγχαλώωσα.
 οἶσθα γὰρ ὥς κ' ἀσπαστὸς ἐνὶ μεγάροισι φανείη 60
 πᾶσι, μάλιστα δ' ἐμοί τε καὶ νιέῃ, τὸν τεκόμεσθα·
 ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅδε μῦθος ἐτήτυμος, ὥς ἀγορεύεις,
 ἀλλὰ τις ἀθανάτων κτεῖνε μνηστῆρας ἀγαυοίς,
 ὕβριν ἀγασσάμενος θυμαλγία καὶ κακὰ ἔργα.
 οὐ τινα γὰρ τίεσκον ἐπιχθονίων ἀνθρώπων, 65
 οὐ κακὸν οὐδὲ μὲν ἐσθλόν, ὅτις σφείας εἰσαφίκοιτο·
 τῷ δι' ἀτασθαλίας ἔπαθον κακόν· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ὤλεσε τηλοῦ νόστον Ἀχαιῖδος, ὤλετο δ' αὐτός."

Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα φίλη τροφὸς Εὐρύκλεια·
 "Τέκνον ἐμόν, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων, 70
 ἢ πόσιν ἔνδον ἔοντα παρ' ἐσχάρῃ οὐ ποτ' ἔφησθα
 οἰκαδ' ἐλεύσεσθαι· θυμὸς δέ τοι αἰὲν ἀπιστος.
 ἀλλ' ἄγε τοι καὶ σῆμα ἀριφραδὲς ἄλλο τι εἶπω,
 οὐλήν, τὴν ποτὲ μιν σὺς ἤλασε λευκῷ ὀδόντι.
 τὴν ἀπονίζουσα φρασάμην, ἔθελον δέ σοι αὐτῇ 75
 εἰπέμεν· ἀλλὰ με κείνος ἑλών ἐπὶ μᾶστακα χερσὶν

And now the bodies are all gathered together at the gates of the court, but he is purging the fair house with sulphur, and has kindled a great fire, and sent me forth to call thee. Nay, come with me, that the hearts of you two may enter into joy, for you have suffered many woes. But now at length has this thy long desire been fulfilled: he has come himself, alive to his own hearth, and he has found both thee and his son in the halls; while as for those, even the wooers, who wrought him evil, on them has he taken vengeance one and all in his house."

Then wise Penelope answered her: "Dear nurse, boast not yet loudly over them with laughter. Thou knowest how welcome the sight of him in the halls would be to all, but above all to me and to his son, born of us two. But this is no true tale, as thou tellest it; nay, some one of the immortals has slain the lordly wooers in wrath at their grievous insolence and their evil deeds. For they honoured no one among men upon the earth, were he evil or good, whosoever came among them; therefore it is through their own wanton folly that they have suffered evil. But Odysseus far away has lost his return to the land of Achæa, and is lost himself."

Then the dear nurse Eurycleia answered her: "My child, what a word has escaped the barrier of thy teeth, in that thou saidst that thy husband, who even now is here, at his own hearth, would never more return! Thy heart is ever unbelieving. Nay come, I will tell thee a manifest sign besides, even the scar of the wound which long ago the boar dealt him with his white tusk. This I marked while I washed his feet, and was fain to tell it to thee as well, but he laid his hand upon my mouth, and in

οὐκ ἔα εἰπέμεναι πολυιδρεῖησι¹ νόοιο.

ἀλλ' ἔπειν αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἐμέθεν περιδῶσμαι αὐτῆς,
αἱ κέν σ' ἔξαπάφω, κτεῖναι μ' οἰκτίστω ὀλέθρῳ."

Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα περίφρων Πηνελόπεια· 80

"Μαῖα φίλη, χαλεπὸν σε θεῶν αἰενγενετῶν
δῆντα εἴρυσθαι, μάλα περ πολυῖδριν ἐοῦσαν.
ἀλλ' ἔμπης ἴομεν μετὰ παῖδ' ἐμὸν, ὅφρα ἴδωμαι
ἄνδρας μνηστῆρας τεθνηότας, ἧδ' ὅς ἔπεφνεν."

Ὡς φαμένη κατέβαιν' ὑπερῶϊα· πολλὰ δέ οἱ κῆρ 85

ῥομαιν', ἥ ἀπάνευθε φίλον πόσιν ἐξερεεῖνοι,
ἥ παρστᾶσα κύσειε κάρη καὶ χεῖρε λαβοῦσα.
ἥ δ' ἐπεὶ εἰσῆλθεν καὶ ὑπέρβη λαῖνον οὐδόν,
ἔχζετ' ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆος ἐναντίη, ἐν πυρὸς αὐγῇ,

τοίχου τοῦ ἐτέρου· ὃ δ' ἄρα πρὸς κίονα μακρὴν 90

ἦστο κάτω ὁρόων, ποτιδῆγμενος εἰ τί μιν εἴποι
ἰφθίμη παράκοιτις, ἐπεὶ ἴδεν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν.

ἥ δ' ἄνεω δὴν ἦστο, τάφος δέ οἱ ἦτορ ἴκανεν·

ὄψει δ' ἄλλοτε μὲν μιν ἐνωπαδίως ἐσίδεσκεν,

ἄλλοτε δ' ὠγνώσασκε κακὰ χροὶ εἴματ' ἔχοντα. 95

Τηλέμαχος δ' ἐνένιπεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

"Μῆτερ ἐμῇ, δύσμητερ, ἀπηνέα θυμὸν ἔχουσα,

τίφθ' οὕτω πατρὸς νοσφίζεαι, οὐδὲ παρ' αὐτὸν

ἐξομένη μύθοισιν ἀνείρεαι οὐδέ μεταλλῆς;

οὐ μὲν κ' ἄλλη γ' ὥδε γυνὴ τετληότι θυμῷ 100

ἄνδρὸς ἀφεςταίη, ὃς οἱ κακὰ πολλὰ μογῆσας

ἔλθοι ἐεικοστῷ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν·

σοὶ δ' αἰεὶ κραδίη στερεωτέρη ἐστὶ λίθοιο."

¹ πολυιδρεῖησι: πολυιδρεῖησι.

the great wisdom of his heart would not suffer me to speak. So come with me; but I will set my very life at stake that, if I deceive thee, thou shouldest slay me by a most pitiful death."

Then wise Penelope answered her: "Dear nurse, it is hard for thee to comprehend the counsels of the gods that are forever, how wise soever thou art. Nevertheless let us go to my son, that I may see the wooers dead and him that slew them."

So saying, she went down from the upper chamber, and much her heart pondered whether she should stand aloof and question her dear husband, or whether she should go up to him, and clasp and kiss his head and hands. But when she had come in and had passed over the stone threshold, she sat down opposite Odysseus in the light of the fire beside the further wall; but he was sitting by a tall pillar, looking down, and waiting to see whether his noble wife would say aught to him, when her eyes beheld him. Howbeit she sat long in silence, and amazement came upon her soul; and now with her eyes she would look full upon his face, and now again she would fail to know him, for that he had upon him mean raiment. But Telemachus rebuked her, and spoke, and addressed her:

"My mother, cruel mother, that hast an unyielding heart, why dost thou thus hold aloof from my father, and dost not sit by his side and ask and question him? No other woman would harden her heart as thou dost, and stand aloof from her husband, who after many grievous toils had come back to her in the twentieth year to his native land: but thy heart is ever harder than stone."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Τέκνον ἐμόν, θυμός μοι ἐνὶ στήθεσσι τέθηπεν,
 οὐδέ τι προσφάσθαι δύναμαι ἔπος οὐδ' ἐρέσθαι
 οὐδ' εἰς ὧπα ιδέσθαι ἐναντίον. εἰ δ' ἔτεόν δὴ
 ἔστ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ οἶκον ἰκάνεται, ἢ μάλα νῶϊ
 γνωσόμεθ' ἀλλήλων καὶ λῶιον· ἔστι γὰρ ἡμῖν
 σῆμαθ', ἃ δὴ καὶ νῶϊ κεκρυμμένα ἴδμεν ἀπ' ἄλλων." 110

Ὡς φάτο, μεῖδῃσεν δὲ πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 αἶψα δὲ Τηλέμαχον ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
 "Τηλέμαχ', ἦ τοι μητέρ' ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἔασον
 πειράζειν ἐμῖθεν· τάχα δὲ φράσεται καὶ ἄρειον.
 νῦν δ' ὅττι ῥυπῶν, κακὰ δὲ χροὶ εἴματα εἶμαι, 115
 τοῦνεκ' ἀτιμάζει με καὶ οὐ πω φησὶ τὸν εἶναι.
 ἡμεῖς δὲ φραζώμεθ' ὅπως ὅχ' ἄριστα γένηται.
 καὶ γὰρ τίς θ' ἓνα φῶτα κατακτείνας ἐνὶ δῆμῳ,
 ᾧ μὴ πολλοὶ ἔωσιν ἀσσοσητῆρες ὀπίσσω,
 φεύγει πηούς τε προλιπὼν καὶ πατρίδα γαῖαν· 120
 ἡμεῖς δ' ἔρμα πόλῃος ἀπέκταμεν, οἳ μὲν ἄριστοι
 κούρων εἰν' Ἰθάκῃ· τὰ δὲ σε φράζεσθαι ἀνάγκα."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦνδα·
 "Αὐτὸς ταῦτά γε λεύσσει, πᾶτερ φίλε· σὴν γὰρ ὑρίστην
 μῆτιν ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους φάσ' ἔμμεναι, οὐδέ κέ τίς τοι 125
 ἄλλος ἀνὴρ ἐρίσειε καταθνητῶν ἀνθρώπων.
 ἡμεῖς δ' ἐμμεμαῶτες ἅμ' ἐψόμεθ', οὐδέ τί φημι
 ἀλκῆς δευήσεσθαι, ὅση δύναμις γε πάρεστιν."¹

Τὸν δ' ὑπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολὺμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼν ἐρέω ὥς μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι ἄριστα, 130
 πρῶτα μὲν ἄρ' λούσασθε καὶ ἀμφίεσασθε χιτῶνας,
 δμοιὰς δ' ἐν μεγάροισιν ἀνάγετε εἴμαθ' ἐλέσθαι
 αὐτὰρ θεῖος ἀοιδὸς ἔχων φόρμυγ' ἀλγίαν·"

¹ Lines 127-8 are omitted in many MSS.

Then wise Penelope answered him: "My child, the heart in my breast is lost in wonder, and I have no power to speak at all, nor to ask a question, nor to look him in the face. But if in very truth he is Odysseus, and has come home, we two shall surely know one another more certainly; for we have signs which we two alone know, signs hidden from others."

So she spoke, and the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus smiled, and straightway spoke to Telemachus winged words:

"Telemachus, suffer now thy mother to test me in the halls; presently shall she win more certain knowledge. But now because I am foul, and am clad about my body in mean clothing, she scorns me, and will not yet admit that I am he. But for us, let us take thought how all may be the very best. For whoso has slain but one man in a land, even though it be a man that leaves not many behind to avenge him, he goes into exile, and leaves his kindred and his native land; but we have slain those who were the very stay of the city, far the noblest of the youths of Ithaca. Of this I bid thee take thought."

Then wise Telemachus answered him: "Do thou thyself look to this, dear father; for thy counsel, they say, is the best among men, nor could any other of mortal men vie with thee. As for us, we will follow with thee eagerly, nor methinks shall we be wanting in valour, so far as we have strength."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him and said: "Then will I tell thee what seems to me to be the best way. First bathe yourselves, and put on your tunics, and bid the handmaids in the halls to take their raiment. But let the divine minstrel with his clear-toned lyre in hand be our leader in

ἡμῖν ἡγεῖσθω φιλοπαίγμονος ὄρχηθμοῖο,
 ὥς κέν τις φαίη γάμον ἔμμεναι ἐκτὸς ἀκούων, 135
 ἢ ἂν ὁδὸν στείχων, ἢ οἱ περιναϊεταόουσιν
 μὴ πρόσθε κλέος εὐρὺ φόνου κατὰ ἄστυ γένηται
 ἀνδρῶν μυηστήρων, πρὶν γ' ἡμέας ἐλθέμεν ἔξω
 ἀγρὸν ἐς ἡμέτερον πολυδένδρεον· ἐνθα δ' ἔπειτα
 φρασσόμεθ' ὅττι κε κέρδος Ὀλύμπιος ἐγγυαλίξῃ." 140

ὣς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα τοῦ μᾶλα μὲν κλύον ἠδ' ἐπίθοντο,
 πρῶτα μὲν οὖν λούσαντο καὶ ἀμφίεσαντο χιτῶνας,
 ὄπλισθεν δὲ γυναῖκες· ὁ δ' εἶλετο θεῖος ἀοιδὸς
 φόρμιγγα γλαφυρήν, ἐν δὲ σφισιν ἴμερον ὥρσε
 μολπῆς τε γλυκερῆς καὶ ἀμύμονος ὄρχηθμοῖο. 145
 τοῖσιν δὲ μέγα δῶμα περιστεναχίζετο ποσσὶν
 ἀνδρῶν παιζόντων καλλιζώνων τε γυναικῶν.
 ὦδε δὲ τις εἶπεσκε δόμων ἔκτοσθεν ὑκούων·

"Ἡ μᾶλα δὴ τις ἔγχε πολυμνήστην βασιλειαν·
 σχετλή, οὐδ' ἔτλη πόσιος οὐ κουριδίλοιο 150
 εἶρυσθαι μέγα δῶμα διαμπερές, ἦος ἴκοιτο."

ὣς ἄρα τις εἶπεσκε, τὰ δ' οὐκ ἴσαν ὥς ἐτέτυκτο.
 αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεύς μεγαλίστορα φ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
 Εὐρυνόμῃ ταμὶν λούσεν καὶ χρίσεν ἐλαίῳ,
 ἀμφὶ δέ μιν φᾶρος καλὸν βάλεν ἠδὲ χιτῶνα· 155
 αὐτὰρ κακ' κεφαλῆς κύλλος πολὺ χεῦεν Ἀθῆνη
 μείζονά τ' εἰσιδέειν καὶ πάσσονα· καὶ δὲ κάρητος
 οὖλος ἦκε κόμας, ὑακινθίνῳ ἀνθει ὁμοίας.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε τις χρυσὸν περιχεύεται ἀργύρῳ ἀνὴρ
 Ἴδρις, ὃν Ἡφαίστος δέδασεν καὶ Παλλὰς Ἀθῆνη 160
 τέχνην παντοίην, χαρίεντα δὲ ἔργα τελείει·
 ὥς μὲν τῷ περίχευε χάριν κεφαλῇ τε καὶ ὤμοις.

the gladsome dance, that any man who hears the sound from without, whether a passer-by or one of those who dwell around, may say that it is a wedding feast; and so the rumour of the slaying of the wooers shall not be spread abroad throughout the city before we go forth to our well-wooded farm. There shall we afterwards devise whatever advantage the Olympian may vouchsafe us."

So he spoke, and they all readily hearkened and obeyed. First they bathed and put on their tunics, and the women arrayed themselves, and the divine minstrel took the hollow lyre and aroused in them the desire of sweet song and goodly dance. So the great hall resounded all about with the tread of dancing men and of fair-girdled women; and thus would one speak who heard the noise from without the house:

"Aye, verily some one has wedded the queen wooed of many. Cruel she was, nor had she the heart to keep the great house of her wedded husband to the end, even till he should come."

So they would say, but they knew not how these things were. Meanwhile the house-wife Eurynome bathed the great-hearted Odysseus in his house, and anointed him with oil, and cast about him a fair cloak and a tunic; and over his head Athene shed abundant beauty, making him taller to look upon and mightier, and from his head she made locks to flow in curls like the hyacinth flower. And as when a man overlays silver with gold, a cunning workman whom Hephaestus and Pallas Athene have taught all manner of craft, and full of grace is the work he produces, even so the goddess shed grace on his head and shoulders, and forth from the bath he

ἐκ δ' ἄσασμίνθου βῆ δέμας ἀθανάτοισιν ὁμοῖος·
 ἄψ δ' αὐτὶς κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετ' ἐπὶ θρόνου ἐνθεν ἀνέστη.
 ἀντίον ἦς ἀλόχου, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον εἶπε· 165

“ Δαιμονίη, περί σοί γε γυναικῶν θηλυτεράων
 κῆρ ἀτέραμνον ἔθηκαν Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες·
 οὐ μὲν κ' ἄλλη γ' ὥδε γυνή τετληότι θυμῷ
 ἀνδρὸς ὠφισταίη, ὅς οἱ κακὰ πολλὰ μογήσας
 ἔλθοι εἰκοστῷ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν. 170

ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι, μαῖα, στόρεσον λέχος, ὅφρα καὶ αὐτὸς
 λέξομαι· ἦ γὰρ τῇ γε σιδήρεον ἐν φρεσὶ ἦτορ.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 “ Δαιμόνι, οὐτ' ἄρ τι μεγαλίζομαι οὐτ' ἀθερίζω
 οὔτε λήν ἄγαμαι, μάλα δ' εὖ αἰδ' οἶος ἐησθα 175
 ἐξ Ἰθάκης ἐπὶ νηὸς ἰὼν δολιχηρέτμοιο.

ἀλλ' ἄγε οἱ στόρεσον πυκινὸν λέχος, Εὐρύκλεια,
 ἐκτὸς εὐσταθέος θαλάμου, τὸν ῥ' αὐτὸς ἐποίει·
 ἐνθα οἱ ἐκθεῖσαι πυκινὸν λέχος ἐμβάλετ' εὐνήν,
 κῶσα καὶ χλαῖνας καὶ ῥήγεα σιγαλόεντα.” 180

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη πόσιος πειρωμένη· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ὀχθήσας ἀλοχον προσεφώνει κεδυὰ ἰδυῖαν·

“ὦ γύναι, ἦ μάλα τοῦτο ἔπος θυμολγὲς εἶπες·
 τίς δέ μοι ἄλλοσε θῆκε λέχος; χαλεπὸν δέ κεν εἴη
 καὶ μῦλ' ἐπισταμένῳ, ὅτε μὴ θεὸς αὐτὸς ἐπελθὼν· 185
 ῥηιδίως ἐθέλων θείῃ ἄλλῃ ἐνὶ χώρῃ.

ἀνδρῶν δ' οὐ κέν τις ζωὸς βροτὸς, οὐδὲ μάλ' ἡβῶν,¹
 ῥεῖα μετοχλίσσειεν, ἐπεὶ μέγα σῆμα τέτυκται
 ἐν λέχει ὠσκητῇ· τὸ δ' ἐγὼ κἄμον οὐδέ τις ἄλλος.
 θάμνος ἔφντανύφυλλος ἐλαίης ἔρκεος ἐντός,
 ἀκμηνὸς θαλάθων· πάχετος δ' ἦν ἥύτε κίων. 190

¹ οἷον μάλ' ἡβῶν· οἷον γυναικῶν.

came, in form like unto the immortals. Then he sat down again on the chair from which he had risen, opposite his wife; and he spoke to her and said:

"Strange lady! to thee beyond all women have the dwellers on Olympus given a heart that cannot be softened. No other woman would harden her heart as thou dost, and stand aloof from her husband who after many grievous toils had come to her in the twentieth year to his native land." Nay come, nurse, strew me a couch, that all alone I may lay me down, for verily the heart in her breast is of iron."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Strange sir, I am neither in any wise proud, nor do I scorn thee, nor yet am I too greatly amazed, but right well do I know what manner of man thou wast, when thou wentest forth from Ithaca on thy long-oared ship. Yet come, Eurycleia, strew for him the about bedstead outside the well-built bridal chamber which he made himself. Thither do ye bring for him the about bedstead, and cast upon it bedding, fleeces and cloaks and bright coverlets."

So she spoke, and made trial of her husband. But Odysseus, in a burst of anger, spoke to his true-hearted wife, and said: "Woman, truly this is a bitter word that thou hast spoken. Who has set my bed elsewhere? Hard would it be for one, though never so skilled, unless a god himself should come and easily by his will set it in another place. But of men there is no mortal that lives, be he never so young and strong, who could easily pry it from its place, for a great token is wrought in the fashioned bed, and it was I that built it and none other. A bush of long-leaved olive was growing within the court, strong and vigorous, and in girth it was

τῷ δ' ἐγὼ ἀμφιβαλὼν θάλαμον δέμον, δφρ' ἐτέλεσσα.
 πυκνῆσιν λιθαῖδεσσι, καὶ εὖ καθύπερθεν ἔρεψα,
 κολλητὰς δ' ἐπέθηκα θύρας, πυκνῶς ἀραρυίας.
 καὶ τότε ἔπειτ' ἀπέκοψα κόμην τανυφύλλου ἐλαίης, 195
 κορμὸν δ' ἐκ ῥίξης προταμὼν ἀμφέξεσα χαλκῷ
 εὖ καὶ ἐπισταμένως, καὶ ἐπὶ στάθμην ἰθυνα,
 ἐρμῖν' ἀσκήσας, τέτρηνα δὲ πάντα τερέτρω.
 ἐκ δὲ τοῦ ἀρχόμενος λέχος ἔξεον, δφρ' ἐτέλεσσα,
 δαιδάλλων χρυσῷ τε καὶ ἀργύρῳ ἢ δ' ἐλέφαντι· 200
 ἐκ δ' ἐτάνυσσα ἱμάντα βοῶν φοίνικι φαεινόν.¹
 οὕτω τοι τόδε σῆμο πιφαύσκομοι· οὐδέ τι οἶδα,
 ἢ μοι ἔτ' ἔμπεδόν ἐστι, γύναι, λέχος, ἢ τίς ἤδη
 ἀνδρῶν ἄλλοσε θῆκε, ταμῶν ὑπο πυθμέν' ἐλαίης." 204
 "Ὡς φάτο, τῆς δ' αὐτοῦ λῦτο γούνατα καὶ φίλον ἦτορ,
 σήματ' ἀναγνούσῃ τὰ οἱ ἔμπεδα πέφραδ' Ὀδυσσεύς·
 δακρύσασα δ' ἔπειτ' ἰθὺς δράμεν, ἀμφὶ δὲ χεῖρας
 δειρῇ βόλλ' Ὀδυσσῇ, κίρῃ δ' ἔκυσ' ἠδὲ προσηύδα·

"Μή μοι, Ὀδυσσεῦ, σκύζεν, ἐπεὶ τὰ περ ἄλλα μάλιστα
 ἀνθρώπων πέπνυστο· θεοὶ δ' ὤπαζον οἰζύν, 210
 οἱ νῶϊν ἀγάσαντο παρ' ἀλλήλοισι μένοντες
 ἤβης ταρπῆναι καὶ γήραος οὐδὸν ἰκέσθαι.
 αὐτὰρ μὴ νῦν μοι τόδε χῶεο μηδὲ νεμέσσα,
 οὔτεκά σ' οὐ τὸ πρῶτον, ἐπεὶ ἴδον, ὦ δ' ἀγάπησα.
 αἶεὶ γάρ μοι θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλοισιν 215
 ἐρρίγῃ μὴ τίς με βροτῶν ἀπάφοιτο ἔπεςσιν
 ἐλθῶν· πολλοὶ γὰρ κακὰ κέρδεα βουλευουσιν.
 οὐδέ κεν Ἀργεῖη Ἑλένη, Διὸς ἐκγεγαυῖα,

¹ φοίνικι φαεινόν: ἴφι καταμένοισι.

like a pillar. Round about this I built my chamber, till I had finished it, with close-set stones, and I roofed it over well, and added to it jointed doors, close-fitting. Thereafter I cut away the leafy branches of the long-leaved olive, and, trimming the trunk from the root, I smoothed it around with the adze well and cunningly, and made it straight to the line, thus fashioning the bed-post; and I bored it all with the augur. Beginning with this I hewed out my bed, till I had finished it, inlaying it with gold and silver and ivory, and I stretched on it a thong of ox-hide, bright with purple. Thus do I declare to thee this token; but I know not, woman, whether my bedstead is still fast in its place, or whether by now some man has cut from beneath the olive stump, and set the bedstead elsewhere."

So he spoke, and her knees were loosened where she sat, and her heart melted, as she knew the sure tokens which Odysseus told her. Then with a burst of tears she ran straight toward him, and flung her arms about the neck of Odysseus, and kissed his head, and spoke, saying:

"Be not vexed with me, Odysseus, for in all else thou wast ever the wisest of men. It is the gods that gave us sorrow, the gods who begrudged that we two should remain with each other and enjoy our youth, and come to the threshold of old age. But be not now wroth with me for this, nor full of indignation, because at the first, when I saw thee, I did not thus give thee welcome. For always the heart in my breast was full of dread, lest some man should come and beguile me with his words; for there are many that plan devices of evil. Nay, even Argive Helen, daughter of Zeus, would not have lain in love

αἰνδρὶ παρ' ἄλλοδαπῷ ἐμίγη φιλότῃτι καὶ εὐνῇ,
 εἰ ᾗδῃ δ' μιν αὖτις ὕρῃοι υἷες Ἀχαιῶν 220
 ἀξέμεναι οἰκόνδε φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδ' ἐμελλον.
 τὴν δ' ἣ τοι ῥέξαι θεὸς ὥροριν ἔργον ἀεικές·
 τὴν δ' ἄτην οὐ πρόσθεν ἔφ' ἐγκάτθετο θυμῷ
 λυγρῇν, ἐξ ἧς πρῶτα καὶ ἡμέας ἴκετο πένθος.¹
 νῦν δ', ἐπεὶ ἤδη σήματ' ἀριφραδέα κατέλεξας 225
 εὐνῆς ἡμετέρης, ἦν οὐ βροτὸς ἄλλος ὀπώπει,
 ἀλλ' οἶοι σύ τ' ἐγὼ τε καὶ ἀμφίπολος μία μούνη,
 Ἄκτορίς, ἦν μοι δῶκε πατήρ ἔτι δεῦρο κιοῦση,
 ἢ νῶϊν εἰρυτὸ θύρας πυκτινοῦ θαλάμοιο,
 πείθεις δὴ μεν θυμόν, ἀπηνέα περ μάλ' ἰόντα." 230
 ὣς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἔτι μᾶλλον ὑφ' ἥμερον ὥρσε γόοιο·
 κλαῖε δ' ἔχων ἄλοχον θυμαρέα, κεδνὰ ἰδυῖαν.
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἀσπᾶσιος γῆ νηχομένοισι φανῇ,
 ὦν τε Ποσειδάων εὐεργέα νῆ' ἐνὶ πόντῳ
 ῥαΐσῃ, ἐπειγομένην ἀνέμῳ καὶ κύματι πηγαῖ· 235
 παῦροι δ' ἐξέφυγον πολέης ἁλὸς ἠπειρόνδε
 νηχόμενοι, πολλὰ δὲ περὶ χρυτὸ τέτροφεν ἄλμῃ,
 ἀσπᾶσιος δ' ἐπέβαν γαίης, κακότητα φυγόντες·
 ὡς ἄρα τῇ ἀσπαστὸς ἔην πόσις εἰσοροώσῃ,
 δειρῆς δ' οὐ πω πύμπαν ἀφίετο πῆχαι λευκῷ. 240
 καὶ νῦ κ' ὀδυρομένοισι φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥώς,
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ἄλλ' ἐνόησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.
 νύκτα μὲν ἐν περὶ τῇ δολεχὴν σχέθεν, Ἥῳ δ' αὖτε
 ῥύσατ' ἐπ' Ὀκείαν χρυσόθρονον, οὐδ' ἴα ἵππους
 ζεύγνυσθ' ὠκύποδας, φάος ἀνθρώποισι φέροντας. 245
 Λάμπρον καὶ Φαίειονθ', οἳ τ' Ἥῳ πῶλοι ἄγουσι.

¹ Lines 218-24 were rejected by Aristarchus, and can hardly be defended in this context.

with a man of another folk, had she known that the warlike sons of the Achæans were to bring her home again to her dear native land. Yet verily in her case a god prompted her to work a shameful deed; nor until then did she lay up in her mind the thought of that folly, the grievous folly from which at the first sorrow came upon us too. But now, since thou hast told the clear tokens of our bed, which no mortal beside has ever seen save thee and me alone and one single handmaid, the daughter of Aëtor, whom my father gave me or ever I came hither, even her who kept the doors of our strong bridal chamber, lo, thou dost convince my heart, unbending as it is."

So she spoke, and in his heart aroused yet more the desire for lamentation; and he wept, holding in his arms his dear and true-hearted wife. And welcome as is the sight of land to men that swim, whose well-built ship Poseidon has smitten on the sea as it was driven on by the wind and the swollen wave, and but few have made their escape from the gray sea to the shore by swimming, and thickly are their bodies crusted with brine, and gladly have they set foot on the land and escaped from their evil case; even so welcome to her was her husband, as she gazed upon him, and from his neck she could in no wise let her white arms go. And now would the rosy-fingered Dawn have arisen upon their weeping, had not the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, taken other counsel. The long night she held back at the end of its course, and likewise stayed the golden-throned Dawn at the streams of Oceanus, and would not suffer her to yoke her swift-footed horses that bring light to men, Lampus and Phaëthon, who are the colts that bear the Dawn.

Καὶ τότε ἄρ' ἦν ἄλυχον προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "ὦ γύναι, οὐ γάρ πω πάντων ἐπὶ πείρατ' ἀέθλων
 ἤλθομεν, ἀλλ' ἐπ' ὀπισθεν ἀμέτρητος πόνος ἔσται,
 πολλὰς καὶ χαλεπὰς, τὸν ἐμὲ χρὴ πάντα τελείσαι. 250
 ὣς γάρ μοι ψυχὴ μαντεύσατο Τειρεσίαιο
 ἤματι τῷ δτε δὴ κατέβην δόμον Ἑλιδος εἰσω,
 τόστον ἑταίροισιν διζήμενος ἦδ' ἐμοὶ αὐτῷ.
 ἀλλ' ἔρχευ, λέκτρονδ' ἴομεν, γύναι, ὄφρα καὶ ἤδη
 ὑπὸ ὑπογλυκερῷ ταρπώμεθα κοιμηθέντες." 253

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια·
 "Εὐνὴ μὲν δὴ σοὶ γε τότε ἔσσεται ὀππότε θυμῷ
 σὺ θέλῃς, ἐπεὶ ἄρ' σε θεοὶ ποίησαν ἰκέσθαι
 οἶκον ἐυκτίμενον καὶ σὴν ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν·
 ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ ἐφρύσθης καὶ τοι θεὸς ἐμβαλε θυμῷ, 260
 εἰπ' ἄγε μοι τὸν ἀέθλον, ἐπεὶ καὶ ὀπισθεν, οἶος,
 πεύσομαι, αὐτίκα δ' ἔστι δαήμεναι οὐ τι χέριον."

Τὴν δ' ὀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Δαιμονίη, τί τ' ἄρ' αὖ με μάλ' ὀτρύνουσα κελεύεις
 εἰπόμεν; αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ μνηθήσομαι οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω. 265
 οὐ μὲν τοι θυμὸς κεχαρήσεται· οὐδὲ γὰρ αὐτὸς
 χαίρω, ἐπεὶ μάλα πολλὰ βροτῶν ἐπὶ ἄστε' ἀνωγεν
 ἐλθεῖν, ἐν χείρεσσιν ἔχοντ' εὐήρες ἔρετμόν,
 εἰς ὃ κε τοὺς ἀφίκωμαι αἳ οὐκ ἴσασι θάλασσαν
 ἀνέρες, οὐδέ θ' ἄλεσσι μεμιγμένον εἶδαρ ἔδουσιν 270
 οὐδ' ἄρα τοί γ' ἴσασι νέας φοινικοπαρήους,
 οὐδ' εὐήρε' ἔρετμί, τίς τε πτερὰ νηυσὶ πέλουται.
 σῆμα δέ μοι τόδ' ἔειπεν ἀριφραδὲς, οὐδέ σε κεύσω·
 ὀππότε κεν δὴ μοι ξυμβλήμενος ἄλλος ὁδύτης
 φῆῃ ἀθηρηλοιγὸν ἔχειν ὑνὰ φαιδίμῳ ὦμῳ, 275
 καὶ τότε μ' ἐν γαίῃ πῆξαντ' ἐκέλευεν ἔρετμόν,
 ἔρξανθ' ἱερὰ καλὰ Ποσειδῶνι ἀνακτι,
 ἀρνειὸν ταῦρόν τε συῶν τ' ἐπιβήτορα κάπρον,

Then to his wife said Odysseus of many wiles: "Wife, we have not yet come to the end of all our trials, but still hereafter there is to be measureless toil, long and hard, which I must fulfil to the end; for so did the spirit of Teiresias foretell to me on the day when I went down into the house of Hades to enquire concerning the return of my comrades and myself. But come, wife, let us to bed, that lulled now by sweet slumber we may take our joy of rest."

Then wise Penelope answered him: "Thy bed shall be ready for thee whensoever thy heart shall desire it, since the gods have indeed caused thee to come back to thy well-built house and thy native land. But since thou hast bethought thee of this, and a god has put it into thy heart, come, tell me of this trial, for in time to come, methinks, I shall learn of it, and to know it at once is no whit worse."

And Odysseus of many wiles answered her, and said: "Strange lady! why dost thou now so urgently bid me tell thee? Yet I will declare it, and will hide nothing. Verily thy heart shall have no joy of it, even as I myself have none; for Teiresias bade me go forth to full many cities of men, bearing a shapely oar in my hands, till I should come to men that know naught of the sea, and eat not of food mingled with salt; aye, and they know naught of ships with purple cheeks, or of shapely oars that serve as wings to ships. And he told me this sign, right manifest; nor will I hide it from thee. When another wayfarer, on meeting me, should say that I had a winnowing fan on my stout shoulder, then he bade me fix my oar in the earth, and make goodly offerings to lord Poseidon—a ram and a bull and a boar, that

οἰκαδ' ἀποστείχειν, ἔρδειν θ' ἱερὰς ἑκατόμβας
 ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσι, τοὶ οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἔχουσι, 280
 πῦσι μάλ' ἐξέλῃς· θύνατος δέ μοι ἐξ ἁλὸς αὐτῷ
 ἀβληχρὸς μάλα τοῖος ἐλεύσεται, ὃς κέ με πέφνη
 γῆρα' ὑπο λιπαρῷ ἀρημένον ἀμφὶ δὲ λαοὶ
 δλβιοὶ ἔσσονται· τὰ δέ μοι φύτο πάντα τελείσθαι."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε περίφρων Πηλεόπεια· 285
 "Εἰ μὲν δὴ γῆρας γε θεοὶ τελέουσιν ἄρειον,
 ἐλπυρὴ τοι ἔπειτα κακῶν ὑπάλυξιν ἔσσεσθαι."

Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον·
 τόφρα δ' ἄρ' Εὐρυνόμη τε ἰδὲ τροφὸς ἔντυον εὐνὴν
 ἐσθῆτος μαλακῆς, δαΐδων ὑπο λαμπομενάων. 290
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ στόρεσαν πυκινὸν λῆχος ἐγκονέουσai,
 γῆρῃς μὲν κίονσα πάλιν οἰκόνδε βεβήκει,
 τοῖσιν δ' Εὐρυνόμη θαλαμηπόλος ἡγεμόνευεν
 ἐρχομένοισι λῆχοςδε, δάος μετὰ χερσὶν ἔχουσα·
 ἐς θύλαμον δ' ἀγαγοῦσα πάλιν κίεν. οἱ μὲν ἔπειτα 295
 ἰσπίσιοι λῆκτροιο παλαιοῦ θεσμὸν ἴκοντι·¹
 αὐτὰρ Τηλέμαχος καὶ βουκόλος ἠδὲ συβώτης
 παῦσαν ἄρ' ὀρχηθμοῖο πόδας, παῦσαν δὲ γυναῖκας,
 αὐτοὶ δ' εὐνάζοντο κατὰ μέγαρα σκιδόντα.

Τὸ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν φιλότιτος ἑταρπῆτην ἐρατεινῆς, 300
 τερπέσθην μῦθοισι, πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἐνέποντε,
 ἥ μὲν ὅς' ἐν μεγάροισιν ἀνέσχετο διὰ γυναικῶν,
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων ἐσορῶσ' ἀΐδηλον ὄμιλον,
 οἱ ἔθεν εἵνεκα πολλή, βόας καὶ ἴφια μῆλα,

¹ This line, we are told in the scholia, was regarded by Aristophanes and Aristarchus as the end of the *Odyssey*.

mates with sows—and depart for my home, and offer sacred hecatombs to the immortal gods, who hold broad heaven, to each one in due order. And death shall come to me myself far from the sea, a death so gentle, that shall lay me low, when I am overcome with sleek old age, and my people shall dwell in prosperity around me. All this, he said, should I see fulfilled."

Then wise Peulope answered him: "If verily the gods are to bring about for thee a happier old age, there is hope then that thou wilt find an escape from evil."

Thus they spoke to one another; and meanwhile Eurynome and the nurse made ready the bed of soft coverlets by the light of blazing torches. But when they had busily spread the stout-built bedstead, the old nurse went back to her chamber to lie down, and Eurynome, the maiden of the bed-chamber, led them on their way to the couch with a torch in her hands; and when she had led them to the bridal chamber, she went back. And they then gladly came to the place¹ of the couch that was theirs of old. But Telemachus and the neatherd and the swineherd stayed their feet from dancing, and stayed the women, and themselves lay down to sleep throughout the shadowy halls.

But when the two had had their fill of the joy of love, they took delight in tales, speaking each to the other. She, the fair lady, told of all that she had endured in the halls, looking upon the destructive throng of the wooers, who for her sake slew many beasts, cattle and goodly sheep; and

¹ Others render "rites," but this seems un-Homeric.

ἴσφαζον, πολλὰς δὲ πύθων ἠφύσσετο οἶνος· 305
 αὐτὰρ ὁ διογενὴς Ὀδυσσεὺς ὅσα κῆδέ ἔθηκεν
 ἀνθρώποις ὅσα τ' αὐτὸς διζύσας ἐμόγησε,
 πάντ' ἔλεγε· ἣ δ' ἄρ' ἐτέρπει ἀκούουσ', οὐδέ οἱ ὕπνος
 πίπτειν ἐπὶ βλεφάροισι πάρος καταλέξει ἅπαντα.
 Ἦρξατο δ' ὥς πρῶτον Κίκονας δάμασ'; αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα 311
 ἦλθ' ἐς Λωτοφάγων ἀνδρῶν πλείραν ἄρουραν·
 ἦδ' ὅσα Κύκλωψ ἔρξε, καὶ ὥς ἀπετίσατο ποινὴν
 ἰφθίμων ἐτέρων, οὐκ ἥσθιεγ οὐδ' ἐλείπειν
 ἦδ' ὥς Λῖολον ἴκεθ', ὃ μιν πρόφρων ὑπέδεκτο
 καὶ πέμπ', οὐδέ πω αἶσα φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἰκέσθαι 318
 ἦν, ἀλλὰ μιν αὐτὶς ἀναρπάξασα θύελλα
 πόντον ἐπ' ἰχθυόεντα φέρειν βαρὴα¹ στενάχοντα·
 ἦδ' ὥς Τηλέπυλον Λαιστρυγονίην ἀφίκαεν,
 οἱ κῆρς τ' ὄλεσαν καὶ εὐκνήμιδας ἑταῖρους
 πάντας· Ὀδυσσεὺς δ' οἷος ὑπέκφυγε νηὶ μελαίνῃ·² 320
 καὶ Κίρκης κατέλεξε δόλον πολυμηχανίην τε,
 ἦδ' ὥς εἰς Ἀἴθεω δόμον ἤλυθεν εὐρώσιτα,
 ψυχῇ χρησόμενος Θηβαίου Τειρεσίαιο,
 νηὶ πολυκλήϊδι, καὶ εἰσὶδε πάντας ἑταῖρους
 μητέρα θ', ἣ μιν ἐτίκτε καὶ ἐτρέφε τυτθὸν ἰόντα· 323
 ἦδ' ὥς Σειρήνων ἀδινύων φθόγγον ἀκουσεν,
 ὥς θ' ἴκετο Πλαγκτὰς πέτρας δεινὴν τε Χάρυβδι
 Σκύλλην θ', ἣν οὐ πῶ ποτ' ἀκήριοι ἄνδρες ἄλυξαν·
 ἦδ' ὥς Ἥελίοιο βόας κατέπεφνον ἑταῖροι·
 ἦδ' ὥς νῆα βοὴν ἔβαλε ψολόεντι κεραυνῷ 330
 Ζεὺς ὑψιβρεμέτης, ἀπὸ δ' ἐφθίβεν ἐσθλοὶ ἑταῖροι
 πάντες ὁμῶς, αὐτὸς δὲ κακὰς ὑπὸ κῆρας ἄλυξεν·
 ὥς θ' ἴκετ' Ὀγυγίην νῆσον νύμφην τε Καλυψώ,

¹ βαρὴα: μεγάλο.

² Line 320 in omitted in some MSS

great store of wine was drawn from the jars. But Zeus-born Odysseus recounted all the woes that he had brought on men, and all the toil that in his sorrow he had himself endured, and she was glad to listen, nor did sweet sleep fall upon her eyelids, till he had told all the tale.

He began by telling how at the first he overcame the Cicones, and then came to the rich land of the Lotus-eaters, and all that the Cyclops wrought, and how he made him pay the price for his mighty comrades, whom the Cyclops had eaten, and had shown no pity. Then how he came to Aeolus, who received him with a ready heart, and sent him on his way; but it was not yet his fate to come to his dear native land, nay, the storm-wind caught him up again, and bore him over the teeming deep, groaning heavily. Next how he came to Telepylus of the Laestrygonians, who destroyed his ships and his well-greaved comrades one and all, and Odysseus alone escaped in his black ship. Then he told of all the wiles and craftiness of Circe, and how in his benched ship he had gone to the dank house of Hades to consult the spirit of Theban Teiresias, and had seen all his comrades and the mother who bore him and nursed him, when a child. And how he heard the voice of the Sirens, who sing unceasingly, and had come to the Wandering Rocks, and to dread Charybdis, and to Scylla, from whom never yet had men escaped unscathed. Then how his comrades slew the kine of Helios, and how Zeus, who thunders on high, smote his swift ship with a flaming thunderbolt, and his goodly comrades perished all together, while he alone escaped the evil fates. And how he came to the isle Ogygia and to the nymph Calypso,

ἦ δὴ μιν κατέρυκε, λιλαιομένη πόσιν εἶναι
 ἐν σπέσσι γλαφυροῖσι, καὶ ἔτρεφεν ἠδὲ ἔφασκε 335
 θήσειν ἀθάνατον καὶ ἀγήραον ἥμοτα πάντα·
 ἀλλὰ τοῦ οὐ ποτε θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἐπειθεν
 ἠδ' ὥς ἐς Φαίηκας ἀφίκετο πολλὰ μογήσας,
 οἳ δὴ μιν περὶ κῆρι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσαντο
 καὶ πέμψαν σὺν νηϊ φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν, 340
 χαλκὸν τε χρυσὸν τε ἅλῃς ἐσθῆτά τε δόντες.
 τοῦτ' ἄρα δεύτατον εἶπεν ἔπος, ὅτε οἱ γλυκὺς ὕπνος
 λυσιμελὴς ἐπόρουσε, λύων μελεδήματα θυμοῦ.¹
 Ἦ δ' αὐτ' ἄλλ' ἐνόησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 ὅπποτε δὴ β' Ὀδυσῆα ἐέλπετο δν κατὰ θυμὸν 345
 εὐνῆς ἥς ἀλόχου ταρπήμεναι ἠδὲ καὶ ὕπνου,
 αὐτίκ' ἀπ' Ὀκεανοῦ χρυσόθρονον ἠριγένειαν
 ὤρσεν, ἵν' ἀνθρώποισι φῶς φέροι· ὤρτο δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς
 εὐνῆς ἐκ μαλακῆς, ὑλόχῃ δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔτελλεν·
 "ὦ γύναι, ἦδη μὲν πολέων κεκορήμεθ' ἀέθλων 350
 ἀμφοτέρω, σὺ μὲν ἐνθάδ' ἐμὸν πολυκηδέα νόστον
 κλαίουσ'· αὐτὰρ ἐμὲ Ζεὺς ἄλγεσι καὶ θεοὶ ἄλλοι
 ἰέμενον πεδάασκου ἐμῆς ὑπὸ πατρίδος αἴης·
 νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ ἀμφοτέρω πολυΐρατον ἰκόμεθ' εὐνήν,
 κτήματα μὲν τί μοι ἔστι, κομιζέμεν ἐν μεγάροισι, 355
 μῆλα δ' ἃ μοι μνηστῆρες ὑπερφίαλοι κατέκειραν,
 πολλὰ μὲν αὐτὸς ἐγὼ ληίσσομαι, ἄλλα δ' Ἀχαιοὶ
 δώσουσ', εἰς δ' κε πῖντας ἐνιπλήσωσιν ἱπαῦλους.
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι μὲν ἐγὼ πολυδέενδρον ἀγρὸν ἐπίειμι,
 ὀψόμενος πατέρ' ἐσθλόν, ὃ μοι πυκινῶς ἀκίχεται· 360
 σοὶ δέ, γύναι, τὰδ' ἐπιτέλλω, πινυτῇ περ ἐούσῃ·

¹ Lines 310-42 were rejected by Aristarchus.

who kept him there in her hollow caves, yearning that he should be her husband, and tended him, and said that she would make him immortal and ageless all his days; yet she could never persuade the heart in his breast. Then how he came after many toils to the Phacæians, who heartily showed him all honour, as if he were a god, and sent him in a ship to his dear native land, after giving him stores of bronze and gold and raiment. This was the end of the tale he told, when sweet sleep, that loosens the limbs of men, leapt upon him, loosening the cares of his heart.

Then again the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, took other counsel. When she judged that the heart of Odysseus had had its fill of dalliance with his wife and of sleep, straightway she roused from Oceanus golden-throned Dawn to bring light to men; and Odysseus rose from his soft couch, and gave charge to his wife, saying:

"Wife, by now have we had our fill of many trials, thou and I, thim here, mourning over my troublous journey home, while as for me, Zeus and the other gods bound me fast in sorrows far from my native land, all eager as I was to return. But now that we have both come to the couch of our desire, do thou care for the wealth that I have within the halls; as for the flocks which the insolent wooers have wasted, I shall myself get me many as booty, and others will the Achæans give, until they fill all my folds; but I verily will go to my well-wooded farm to see my noble father, who for my sake is sore distressed, and on thee, wife, do I lay this charge, wise though thou art. Straightway at

αὐτίκα γὰρ φάτις εἰσιν ἄμ' ἡελίφ' ἀνιόντι
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων, οὗς ἔκτανον ἐν μεγάροισιν
 εἰς ὑπερφ' ἀναβῶσα σὺν ἀμφιπόλοισι γυναιξὶν
 ἦσθαι, μηδὲ τινα προτιόσσεο μηδ' ἐρέεινε." 306

Ἦ ῥα καὶ ἀμφ' ὥμοισιν ἐδύσετο τεύχεα καλά,
 ὥρσε δὲ Τηλέμαχον καὶ βουκόλον ἠδὲ συμβῶπην,
 πάντας δ' ἔντε' ἀνωγεν ἀρήϊα χερσὶν ἐλίσθαι.
 οἱ δέ οἱ οὐκ ἐπίθησαν, ἐθωρήσσοντο δὲ χαλκῷ,
 αἶξαν δὲ θύρας, ἐκ δ' ἦιον ἤρχε δ' Ὀδυσσεύς. 310
 ἦδη μὲν φάος ἦεν ἐπὶ χθόνα, τοὺς δ' αὔρ' Ἀθήνη
 νυκτὶ κατακρύψασα θοῶς ἐξῆγε πόληος.

the rising of the sun will report go abroad concerning the wooers whom I slew in the halls. Therefore go thou up to thy upper chamber with thy handmaids, and abide there. Look thou on no man, nor ask a question."

He spoke, and girt about his shoulders his beautiful armour, and roused Telemachus and the neat-herd and the swineherd, and bade them all take weapons of war in their hands. They did not disobey, but clad themselves in bronze, and opened the doors, and went forth, and Odysseus led the way. By now there was light over the earth, but Athene hid them in night, and swiftly led them forth from the city.

Ω

Ἑρμῆς δὲ ψυχὰς Κυλλήνιος ἐξεκαλεῖτο
 ἀνδρῶν μνηστήρων· ἔχε δὲ ῥάβδον μετὰ χερσὶν
 καλὴν χρυσεῖην, τῇ τ' ἀνδρῶν ὄμματα θέλγει
 ὡς ἐθέλει, τοὺς δ' αὖτε καὶ ὑπνώοντας ἐγείρει·
 τῇ ῥ' ἄγε κινήσας, ταὶ δὲ τρίξουσαι ἔποντο.
 ὥς δ' ὅτε νυκτερίδες μυχῶ ἀντροῦ θεσπεσίῳ
 τρίξουσαι ποτέονται, ἐπεὶ κέ τις ἀποπέσῃσιν
 ὄρμαθός ἐκ πέτρης, ἀνά τ' ἀλλήλησιν ἔχονται,
 ὥς αἱ τετραγυῖαι ἅμ' ἦσαν· ἦρχε δ' ἄρα σφιν
 Ἑρμείας ἀκάκητα· κατ' εὐρώεντα κέλευθα.
 παρ' δ' ἴσαν Ὀκεανοῦ τε ῥοὰς καὶ Λευκάδα πέτρην,
 ἣ δὲ παρ' Ἡελίοιο πύλας καὶ δῆμον ὀνείρων
 ἦσαν· αἶψα δ' ἔκοντο κατ' ἀσφοδελὸν λειμῶνα,
 ἔνθα τε ναίουσι ψυχαί, εἶδωλα καμόντων.
 εὖρον δὲ ψυχὴν Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος
 καὶ Πατροκλῆος καὶ Ἀμύμονος Ἀντιλόχοιο
 Λίαντός θ', ὃς ἄριστος ἦν εἰδός τε δέμος τε
 τῶν ἄλλων Δαναῶν μετ' Ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα.
 Ὡς αἱ μὲν περὶ κεῖνον ὁμίλειον ἀγχίμολον δὲ
 ἤλυθ' ἐπὶ ψυχῇ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδου
 ἀχνομένη· περὶ δ' ἄλλαι ἀγγέραθ', ὅσσαι ἅμ' αὐτῷ
 οἴκῳ ἐν Λιγίσθοιο θύον καὶ πότμον ἐπέσπον.
 τὸν προτέρη ψυχὴ προσεφώνεε Πηλεΐωνος·

BOOK XXIV

MEANWHILE Cyllenian Hermes called forth the spirits of the woeful. He held in his hands his wand, a fair wand of gold, wherewith he lulls to sleep the eyes of whom he will, while others again he wakens even out of slumber; with this he roused and led the spirits, and they followed gibbering. And as in the innermost recess of a wondrous cave bats lit about gibbering, when one has fallen from off the rock from the chain in which they cling to one another, so these went with him gibbering, and Hermes, the Helper, led them down the dank ways. Past the streams of Oceanus they went, past the rock Leucas, past the gates of the sun and the land of dreams, and quickly came to the mead of asphodel, where the spirits dwell, phantoms of men who have done with toils. Here they found the spirit of Achilles, son of Peleus, and those of Patroclus, of peerless Antilochus, and of Alas, who in comeliness and form was the goodliest of all the Danaans after the peerless son of Peleus.

So these were thronging about Achilles, and near to them drew the spirit of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, sorrowing; and round about him others were gathered, the spirits of all those who were slain with him in the house of Aegisthus, and met their fate. And the spirit of the son of Peleus was first to address him, saying:

" Ἀτρεΐδῃ, περὶ μὲν σ' ἔφαμεν Διὶ τερπικεραύνῳ
 ἀνδρῶν ἡρώων φίλον ἔμμεναι ἤματα πάντα,
 οὐνεκα πολλοῖσιν τε καὶ ἰφθίμοισιν ἄνασσεσ
 δῆμῳ ἐν Τρώων, ὅθι πάσχομεν ἄλγε' Ἀχαιοί.
 ἦ τ' ἄρα καὶ σοὶ πρῶτ' ἱ παραστήσεσθαι ἔμελλεν
 μοῖρ' ὅλοή, τὴν οὐ τις ἀλείφεται ὅς κε γένηται.
 ὥς ὄφελες τιμῆς ἀπονήμενες, ἧς περ ἄνασσεσ,
 δῆμῳ ἐν Τρώων θάνατον καὶ πότμον ἐπισπείν
 τῷ κέν τοι τύμβον μὲν ἐποίησαν Παναχαιοί,
 ἡδέ κε καὶ σῶ παιδὶ μέγα κλέος ἦρα' ὀπίσσω.
 νῦν δ' ἄρα σ' οἰκτίστροφ θανάτῳ εἵμαρτο ἄλῶναι."

Τὸν δ' αὖτε ψυχὴν προσεφώνεεν Ἀτρεΐδῃος·
 " Ὀλβιε Πηλέος υἱέ, θεοῖς ἐπιείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,
 ὅς θάνες ἐν Τροίῃ ἐκὰς Ἀργεος· ἀμφὶ δέ σ' ἄλλοι
 κτείνοντο Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν υἱες ἄριστοι,
 μαρναίμενοι περὶ σείῳ· σὺ δ' ἐν στοφάλλῃγυι κοινῆς
 κεῖτο μέγας μεγαλωστί, λελασμένος ἵπποσυνάων.
 ἡμεῖς δὲ πρόπαν ἡμαρ ἐμαρνάμεθ'· οὐδέ κε πύμπαν
 πανσάμεθα πτολέμου, εἰ μὴ Ζεὺς λαίλαπι παῦσεν.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ σ' ἐπὶ νῆας ἐνείκαμεν ἐκ πολέμοιο,
 καὶ θέμεν ἐν λεχέεσσι, καθήραντες χρῶα καλὸν
 ὕδατί τε λιάρῳ καὶ ἀλείφατι· πολλὰ δέ σ' ἄμφι
 δάκρυα θερμὰ χέον Δαναοὶ κείροντό τε χαίτας.
 μήτηρ δ' ἐξ ὕλῃς ἦλθε σὺν ἀθανάτης ἀλήρῃσιν
 ἀγγελίης ἰλουσα· βοή δ' ἐπὶ πόντον ὀρώρει
 θεσπεσίῃ, ὑπὸ δὲ τρόμος ἔλλαβε πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς·
 καὶ νῦν κ' ἀναίξαντες ἔβαν κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας,

ἱ πρῶτῃ πρῶτα.

"Son of Atreus, we deemed that thou above all other heroes wast all thy days dear to Zeus, who hurls the thunderbolt, because thou wast lord over many mighty men in the land of the Trojans, where we Achaeans suffered woes. But verily on thee too was deadly doom to come all too early, the doom that not one avoids of those who are born. Ah, would that in the pride of that honour of which thou wast master thou hadst met death and fate in the land of the Trojans. Then would the whole host of the Achaeans have made thee a tomb, and for thy son too wouldst thou have won great glory in days to come; but now, as it seems, it has been decreed that thou shouldst be cut off by a most piteous death."

Then the spirit of the son of Atreus answered him: "Fortunate son of Peleus, godlike Achilles, that wast slain in the land of Troy far from Argos, and about thee others fell, the best of the sons of the Trojans and Achaeans, fighting for thy body; and thou in the whirl of dust didst lie mighty in thy mightiness, forgetful of thy horsemanship. We on our part strove the whole day long, no should we ever have stayed from the fight, had not Zeus stayed us with a storm. But after we had borne thee to the ships from out the fight, we laid thee on a bier, and cleansed thy fair flesh with warm water and with ointment, and many hot tears did the Danaans shed around thee, and they shore their hair. And thy mother came forth from the sea with the immortal sea-nymphs, when she heard the tidings, and a wondrous cry arose over the deep, and thereat trembling laid hold of all the Achaeans. Then would they all have sprung up and rushed to

εἰ μὴ ἀνὴρ κατέρυκε παλαιὰ τε πολλὰ τε εἰδώς,
 Νέστωρ, οὐ καὶ πρόσθεν ἀρίστη φαίνεται βουλή·
 ὃ σφιν εὐφρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν

“Ἰσχεσθ', Ἀργεῖοι, μὴ φεύγετε, κοῦροι Ἀχαιῶν
 μήτηρ ἐξ ἀλὸς ἦδε σὺν ἀθανάτης ἀλήγσειν 55
 ἔρχεται, οὐ παιδὸς τεθυηότος ἀντιόωσα.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἔσχοντο φόβου μεγάλθυμοι Ἀχαιοί·
 ἀμφὶ δέ σ' ἕστησαν κοῦραι ἀλίοιο γέροντος
 οἴκτρ' ὀλοφυρόμεναι, πῆρὶ δ' ἄμβροτα εἴματα ἔσσαν.
 Μοῦσαι δ' ἐννέα πᾶσαι ἀμειβόμεναι ὀπὶ καλῇ 60
 θρήνεον· ἐνθα κεν οὐ τιν' ἀδάκρυτόν γ' ἐνόησας
 Ἀργείων· τοῖον γὰρ ὑπώρορε Μοῦσα λίγεια.¹
 ἐπτα δὲ καὶ δέκα μὲν σε ὁμῶς νύκτας τε καὶ ἡμαρ
 κλαίμεν ἀθάνατοί τε θεοὶ θνητοὶ τ' ἀνθρώποι·
 ὅκτωκαιδεκῇ δ' ἴδομεν πυρί, πολλὰ δέ σ' ἀμφὶ 65
 μῆλα κατεκτάνομεν μάλα πύονα καὶ ἑλικας βοῦς.
 καί τοι δ' ἐν τ' ἐσθῆτι θεῶν καὶ ἀλείφατι πολλῷ
 καὶ μέλιτι γλυκερῷ· πολλοὶ δ' ἦρωες Ἀχαιοὶ
 τεύχεσιν ἐρώσαντο πυρὴν πέρι καιομένοιο,
 πεζοὶ θ' ἵππηές τε· πολλὸς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ὀρώρει. 70
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ σε φλόξ ἦενυσεν Ἥφαίστοιο,
 ἤῳθεν δὴ τοι λέγομεν λεύκ' ὅστέ, Ἀχιλλεῦ,
 οἶνῳ ἐν ἀκρήτῳ καὶ ἀλείφατι· δῶκε δὲ μήτηρ
 χρῦσεον ἡμφιφορῆα· Διωνύσοιο δὲ δῶρον
 φάσκ' ἔμεναι, ἔργον δὲ περικλυτοῦ Ἥφαίστοιο. 75
 ἐν τῷ τοι κεῖται λευκ' ὀστέα, φαίδιμ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,
 μίγδα δὲ Πατρὸκλοιο Μενoitιάδαο θανόντος,

¹ Lines 60-2 were suspected in antiquity.

the hollow ships, had not a man, wise in the wisdom of old, stayed them, even Nestor, whose counsel had before appeared the best. He with good intent addressed their assembly, and said:

“Hold, ye Argives; flee not, Achaean youths. 'Tis his mother who comes here forth from the sea with the immortal sea-nymphs to look upon the face of her dead son.’

“So he spoke, and the great-hearted Achaeans ceased from their flight. Then around thee stood the daughters of the old man of the sea wailing piteously, and they clothed thee about with immortal raiment. And the Muses, nine in all, replying to one another with sweet voices, led the dirge. There couldst thou not have seen an Argive but was in tears, so deeply did the clear-toned Muse move their hearts. Thus for seventeen days alike by night and day did we bewail thee, immortal gods and mortal men, and on the eighteenth we gave thee to the fire, and many well-fatted sheep we slew around thee and sleek kine. So thou wast burned in the raiment of the gods and in abundance of unguents and sweet honey; and many Achaean warriors moved in their armour about the pyre, when thou wast burning, both footmen and charioteers, and a great din arose. But when the flame of Hephaestus had made an end of thee, in the morning we gathered thy white bones, Achilles, and laid them in unmixed wine and unguents. Thy mother had given a two-handled, golden urn, and said that it was the gift of Dionysus, and the handiwork of famed Hephaestus. In this lie thy white bones, glorious Achilles, and mingled with them the bones of the dead Patroclus, son of Menoetius, int apart lie those

χωρὶς δ' Ἀντιλόχοιο, τὸν ἔξοχα τίς πάντων
 τῶν ἄλλων ἐτάρων, μετὰ Πάτροκλόν γε θανόντα.
 ἄμφ' αὐτοῖσι δ' ἔπειτα μέγαν καὶ ἀμύμονα τύμβον 80
 χεύαμεν Ἀργείων ἱερὸς στρατὸς αἰχμητῶν
 ἀκτῇ ἐπὶ προύχούσῃ, ἐπὶ πλατεῖ Ἑλλησπόντῳ,
 ὥς κεν τηλεφανὴς ἐκ ποντοφίν ἀνδράσιν εἴη
 τοῖς οἳ νῦν γεγιάασι καὶ οἳ μετόπισθεν ἔσονται.
 μήτηρ δ' αἰτήσασα θεοὺς περικαλλεῖ ἄεθλα 85
 θῆκε μέσφ' ἐν Ἀγῶνι Ἀριστήεσσιν Ἀχαιῶν.
 ἦδη μὲν πολέων τάφῳ ἀνδρῶν ἀντεβόλησας
 ἡρώων, ὅτε κέν ποτ' ἀποφθιμένου βασιλῆος
 ζώννυνται τε νέοι καὶ ἐπεντύνονται ἄεθλα·
 ἀλλὰ κε κῆρα μάλιστα ἰδὼν βηήσας θυμῷ, 90
 οἳ ἐπὶ σοὶ κατέθηκε θεὰ περικαλλεῖ ἄεθλα,
 ἀργυρόπεζα θετίς· μάλο γὰρ φίλος ἦσθα θεοῖσιν.
 ὥς σὺ μὲν οὐδὲ θανάων ὄνομ' ὤλεσας, ἀλλὰ τοι αἰεὶ
 πάντα ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους κλέος ἔσσεται ἔσθλόν, Ἀχιλλεῦ,
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ τί τόδ' ἦδος, ἐπεὶ πόλεμον τολύπνευσα; 95
 ἐν νόστῳ γὰρ μοι Ζεὺς μῆσατο λυγρὸν ὄλεθρον
 Λιγίσθου ὑπὸ χερσὶ καὶ οὐλομένης ἀλόχοιο."

Ὡς οἳ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
 ἀγχίμολον δέ σφ' ἦλθε διῖκτορος ἀργεῖφόντης,
 ψυχὰς μνηστήρων κατὰγων Ὀδυσῆϊ δαμέντων, 100
 τὼ δ' ἄρα θαμβήσαντ' ἰθὺς κίον, ὥς ἐσιδέσθην.
 ἔγνω δὲ ψυχὴ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο
 παῖδα φίλον Μελανῆος, ἀγακλυτὸν Ἀμφιμέδοντα·
 ξείνος γὰρ οἳ ἔην Ἰθάκῃ ἐνὶ οἰκίᾳ ναίων.
 τὸν προτέρη ψυχὴ προσεφώνεεν Ἀτρεΐδαο· 105

of Antilochus, whom thou didst honour above all the rest of thy comrades after the dead Patroclus. And over them we heaped up a great and goodly tomb, we the mighty host of Argive spearmen, on a projecting headland by the broad Hellespont, that it might be seen from far over the sea both by men that now are and that shall be born hereafter. But thy mother asked of the gods beautiful prizes, and set them in the midst of the lists for the chiefs of the Achæans. Ere now hast thou been present at the funeral games of many men that were warriors, when at the death of a king the young men gird themselves and make ready the contests,¹ but hadst thou seen that sight thou wouldst most have marvelled at heart, such beautiful prizes did the goddess, silver-footed Thetis, set there in thy honour; for very dear wast thou to the gods. Thus not even in death didst thou lose thy name, but ever shalt thou have fair renown among all men, Achilles. But, as for me, what pleasure have I now in this, that I wound up the skein of war? For on my return Zeus devised for me a woeful doom at the hands of Aegisthus and my accursed wife."

Thus they spoke to one another, but the messenger, Argelphontes, drew near, leading down the spirits of the wooders slain by Odysseus; and the two, seized with wonder, went straight toward them when they beheld them. And the spirit of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, recognized the dear son of Melaneus, glorious Amphimedon, who had been his host, dwelling in Ithaca. Then the spirit of the son of Atreus spoke first to him and said

¹ I have given to ἀδλα the meaning proper to ἀδλα: cf. viii. 108. "Otherwise we must render "make them ready to win the prizes," i.e. "contend for the prizes."

- "Ἀμφίμεδον, τί παθόντες ἐρεμνὴν γαῖαν ἔδυντε
 πάντες κεκριμένοι καὶ ὁμηλικες; οὐδέ κεν ἄλλως
 κρινάμενος λέξαιτο κατὰ πτόλις ἄνδρος ἀρίστους.
 ἢ ὑμὶ ἐν νῆεσσι Ποσειδάων ἐδάμασσεν,
 ὄρσας ἀργαλέους ἀνέμους καὶ κύματα μακρά; 110
 ἢ πού ἀνάρσιοι ἄνδρες ἐδηλίσαντ' ἐπὶ χέρσου
 βόις περιταμνομένους ἢ δ' οἶῶν πῶσα καλὰ,
 ἢ ἐπεὶ πτόλιος μαχίουμενοι ἢ δὲ γυναικῶν;¹
 εἰπέ μοι εἰρομένη· ξείνος δέ τοι εὐχομαι εἶναι.
 ἢ οὐ μέμνη δτε κείσε κατήλυθον ὑμέτερον δῶ,
 ὄτρυνέων Ὀδυσῆα σὺν ἀντιθέφ Μενελάφ 115
 Ἴλιον εἰς ἅμ' ἔπεισθαι εὐσσελμῶν ἐπὶ νηῶν;
 μηνὶ δ' ἄρ' οὐλφ πάντα περήσαμεν εὐρέα πόντον,
 σπουδῇ παρπεπιθόντες Ὀδυσσῆα πτολίπορθον."
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε ψυχὴν προσεφώνεεν Ἀμφιμέδοντος· 120
 "Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, ἀναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,²
 μέμνημαι τάδε πάντα, διωτρεφές, ὥς ἀγορεύεις·
 σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ εὖ μάλα πάντα καὶ ἄτρεκέως καταλέξω,
 ἡμετέρου θανάτοιο κακὸν τέλος, οἶον ἐτύχθη.
 μνώμεθ' Ὀδυσσῆος δὴν οἰχομένοιο δάμαρτα· 125
 ἢ δ' οὐτ' ἥρνεϊτο στυγερὸν γάμον οὐτ' ἐτελεύτα,
 ἡμῖν φραζομένη θάνατον καὶ κῆρο μέλαιναν,
 ἀλλὰ δόλον τόνδ' ἄλλον ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μερμήριξε·
 στησαμένη μέγαν ἱστὸν ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ὑφαίνει,
 λεπτὸν καὶ περίμετρον· ἄφαρ δ' ἡμῖν μετέειπε· 130
 "Κοῦροι ἑμὸι μνηστήρες, ἐπεὶ θύει δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 μίμνῃτ' ἐπειγόμενοι τὸν ἑμὸν γάμον, εἰς ὃ κε φᾶρος
 ἐκτελέσω, μή μοι μεταμῶνια νήματ' ὀληται,
 Λαέρτη ἥρωϊ ταφήϊον, εἰς ὅτε κέν μιν

¹ Line 113 is omitted in many MSS.

² Line 121 is omitted in many MSS.

"Amphimedon, what has befallen you that ye have come down beneath the dark earth, all of you picked men and of like age? One would make no other choice, were one to pick the best men in a city. Did Poseidon smite you on board your ships, when he had roused cruel winds and long waves? Or did foemen work you harm on the land, while you were cutting off their cattle and fair flocks of sheep, or while they fought in defence of their city and their women? Tell me what I ask; for I declare that I am a friend of thy house. Dost thou not remember when I came thither to your house with godlike Menelaus to urge Odysseus to go with us to Ilios on the beached ships? A full month it took us to cross all the wide sea, for hardly could we win to our will Odysseus, the sacker of cities."

Then the spirit of Amphimedon answered him, and said: "Most glorious son of Atreus, king of men, Agamemnon, I remember all these things, O thou fostered of Zeus, even as thou dost tell them; and on my part I will frankly tell thee all the truth, how for us an evil end of death was wrought. We wooed the wife of Odysseus, that had long been gone, and she neither refused the hateful marriage, nor would she ever make an end, devising for us death and black fate. Nay, she contrived in her heart this guileful thing also: she set up in her halls a great web, and fell to weaving—fine of thread was the web and very wide; and straightway she spoke among us:

"Young men, my wooers, since goodly Odysseus is dead, be patient, though eager for my marriage, until I finish this robe—I would not that my spinning should come to naught—a shroud for the lord Laertes against the time when the fell fate of

μοῖρ' ὅλοη καθέλῃσι ταυηλεγέος θανάτοιο, 138
 μή τίς μοι κατὰ δῆμον Ἀχαιῶδων κενεσῆσθῃ,
 αἶ κεν ἄτερ σπείρου κῆται πολλὰ κτεατίσσας.¹

Ἦς ἔφαθ', ἡμῖν δ' αὖτ' ἐπεπείθετο θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ.
 ἐνθα καὶ ἡματιή μὲν ὑφαίνεσκεν μέγαν ἱστόν,
 νύκτας δ' ἀλλῖεσκεν, ἐπεὶ δαΐδας παραθείτο. 140

ὥς τρίετες μὲν ἔληθε δόλῳ καὶ ἐπειθεν Ἀχαιοὺς·
 ἀλλ' ὅτε τέτρατον ἦλθεν ἔτος καὶ ἐπήλυθον ὥραι,
 μηνῶν φθινόντων, περὶ δ' ἡματα πόλλ' ἐτελέσθη,¹
 καὶ τότε δὴ τις εἶπε γυναικῶν, ἥ σάφα ἦδη,
 καὶ τήν γ' ἀλλύουσιν ἐφεύρομεν ἀγλαὸν ἱστόν. 145

ὥς τὸ μὲν ἐξετέλεσσε καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλουσ', ὑπ' ἀνάγκης.

"Εὖθ' ἡ φᾶρος ἔδειξεν, ὑφήνασα μέγαν ἱστόν,
 πλύνασ', ἡελίῳ ἐναλὶγκιον ἢ σελήνῃ,
 καὶ τότε δὴ ῥ' Ὀδυσῆα κακὸς ποθεν ἤγαγε δαίμων
 ἀγροῦ ἐκ' ἐσχατιήν, ὅθι δώματα ναῖε συβῶτης. 150

ἐνθ' ἦλθεν φίλος εἰς Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο,
 ἐκ Πύλου ἡμαθόεντος ἰὼν σὺν νηὶ μελαίνῃ·
 τὸν δὲ μνηστήρσιν θάνατον κακὸν ἀρτύναντε
 ἵκοντο προτὶ ἄστυ περικλυτόν, ἥ τοι Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ὕστερος, αὐτὰρ Τηλέμαχος πρόσθ' ἠγεμόνευε. 155

τὸν δὲ συβῶτης ἤγε κακὰ χροὶ εἴματ' ἔχοντα,
 πτωχῶ λευγαλέῳ ἐναλὶγκιον ἢ δὲ γέροντι
 σκηπτόμενον· τὰ δὲ λυγρὰ περὶ χροὶ εἴματα ἔστο·
 οὐδέ τις ἡμείων δύνατο γινῶναι τὸν ἔοντα
 ἔξαπίνης προφανέντ', οὐδ' οἱ προγενέστεροι ἦσαν, 160
 ἀλλ' ἐπισὶν τε κακοῖσιν ἐνίσσομεν ἢ δὲ βολῇσιν.
 αὐτὰρ ὁ τῆος ἐτόλμα ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν εἰοῖσι

¹ Line 143 (cf. x. 470) is omitted in most MSS.

grievous death shall strike him down; lest any of the Achaean women in the land should be wroth at mo, if he were to lie without a shroud, who had won great possessions.'

"So she spoke, and our proud hearts consented. Then day by day she would weave at the great web, but by night would unravel it, when she had let place torches by her. Thus for three years she by her craft kept the Achaeans from knowing, and beguiled them; but when the fourth year came, as the seasons rolled on, as the months waned and many days were brought in their course, even then one of her women who knew all, told us, and we caught her unravelling the splendid web. So she finished it against her will perforce.

"Now when she had shewn us the robe, after weaving the great web and washing it, and it shone like the sun or the moon, then it was that some cruel god brought Odysseus from somewhere to the border of the land, where the swineherd dwelt. Thither too came the dear son of divine Odysseus on his return from sandy Pylos in his black ship, and these two, when they had planned an evil death for the wooers, came to the famous city, Odysseus verily later, but Telemachus led the way before him. Now the swineherd brought his master, clad in mean raiment, in the likeness of a woeful and aged beggar, leaning on a staff, and miserable was the raiment that he wore about his body; and not one of us could know that it was he, when he appeared so suddenly, no, not even those that were older men, but we assailed him with evil words and with missiles. Howbeit he with steadfast

βαλλόμενος καὶ ἐνισσόμενος τετληότι θυμῷ·
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ μιν ἔγειρε Διὸς νοὸς ἀνγίοχοιο,
 σὺν μὲν Τηλεμάχῳ περικαλλέα τεύχε' αἰέρος 166
 ἐς θύλαμον κατέθηκε καὶ ἐκλήισεν ὀχῆας,
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἦν ἄλοχον πολυκερδείησιν ἄνωγε
 τόξον μνηστήρεσσι θέμεν πολίων τε σιδήρον,
 ἡμῖν αἰνομόροισιν ἀέθλια καὶ φόβου ἀρχήν.
 οἴδ' εἰ τις ἡμείων δύνατο κρατεροῖο βιοῖο 170
 κευρὴν ἐντανύσαι, πολλὸν δ' ἐπιδευέες ἦμεν.
 ἀλλ' ὅτε χεῖρας ἱκανὲν Ὀδυσσεύς μέγα τόξον,
 ἐνθ' ἡμεῖς μὲν πάντες ὁμοκλέομεν ἐπέεσσι
 τόξον μὴ δόμεναι, μηδ' εἰ μάλα πολλ' ἀγορεύοι·
 Τηλέμαχος δέ μιν οἷος ἐποτρύνων ἐκέλευσεν. 175
 αὐτὰρ ὁ δέξατο χεὶρὶ πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 ῥηϊδίως δ' ἐτάνυσσε βιὸν, διὰ δ' ἦκε σιδήρου,
 στῆ δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰών, ταχέας δ' ἐκχεύατ' οἷστον
 δεινὸν παπταίνων, βάλε δ' Ἀντίνοον βασιλῆα.
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' ἄλλοις ἐφίει βέλεα στονόεντα, 180
 ἅντα τιτυσκόμενος· τοὶ δ' ἀγχιστῖνοι ἔπιπτον.
 γνωτὸν δ' ἦν ὃ ῥά τις σφί θεῶν ἐπιτάρροθος ἦεν·
 αὐτίκα γὰρ κοτὰ δώματ' ἐπισπόμενοι μένει σφῶ
 κτεῖνον ἐπιστροφάδην, τῶν δὲ στόνος ὤρνυτ' αἰκίης
 κράτων τυπτομένων, δάπεδον δ' ἅπαν αἵματι θύεν. 185
 ὥς ἡμεῖς, Ἀγάμεμνον, ὑπώλόμεθ', ὦν ἔτι καὶ νῦν
 σώματ' ἀκηδέα κεῖται ἐνὶ μογάροις Ὀδυσῆος·
 οὐ γαῖρ πω ἴσοσι φίλοι κατὰ δώμαθ' ἐκάστων,
 οἳ κ' ἀπονίψοντες μέλανα βρότον ἐξ ὠτειλέων
 κατθέμενοι γοοοῖεν· ὃ γὰρ γέρας ἐστὶ θανόντων." 190

heart endured for a time to be pelted and taunted in his own halls; but when at last the will of Zeus, who bears the aegis, roused him, with the help of Telemachus he took all the beautiful arms and laid them away in the store-room and made fast the bolts. Then in his great cunning he bade his wife set before the wooers his bow and the grey iron to be a contest for us ill-fated men and the beginning of death. And no man of us was able to stretch the string of the mighty bow; nay, we fell far short of that strength. But when the great bow came to the hands of Odysseus, then we all cried out aloud not to give him the bow, how much soever he might speak; but Telemachus alone urged him on, and bade him take it. Then he took the bow in his hand, the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus, and with ease did he string it and send an arrow through the iron. Then he went and stood on the threshold, and poured out the swift arrows, glaring about him terribly, and smote king Antinous. And thereafter upon the others he with sure aim let fly his shafts, fraught with groanings, and the men fell thick and fast. Then was it known that some god was their helper; for straightway rushing on through the halls in their fury they slew men left and right, and therefrom rose hideous groaning, as heads were smitten, and all the floor swam with blood. Thus we perished, Agamemnon, and even now our bodies still lie uncared-for in the halls of Odysseus; for our friends in each man's home know naught as yet—our friends who might wash the black blood from our wounds and lay our bodies out with wailing; for that is the due of the dead."

Τὸν δ' αἶτε ψυχὴ προσεφώνεον Ἀτρεΐδαι·
 "Ὀλβιε Λαέρταο παῖ, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεύ,
 ἣ ἄρα σὺν μεγάλῃ ἀρετῇ ἐκτήσῃσιν ἄκοιτιν.
 ὡς ἀγαθαὶ φρένες ἦσαν ἀμύμονι Πηνελοπείῃ,
 κούρῃ Ἰκαρίου· ὡς εὖ μέμνητ' Ὀδυσῆος, 103
 ἀνδρὸς κουριδίου· τῷ οἱ κλέος οὐ ποτ' ὀλεῖται
 ἥς ἀρετῆς, τεύξουσιν δ' ἐπιχθονίοισιν αἰοιδὴν
 ἀθάνατοι χαρίσσαν ἐχέφρονι Πηνελοπείῃ,
 οὐχ ὡς Τυνδαρέου κούρῃ κακὰ μήσατο ἔργα,
 κουριδίον κτείναςα πόσιν, στυγερὴ δέ τ' αἰοιδῇ 200
 ἔσσειε' ἐπ' ἀνθρώπους, χαλεπὴν δέ τε φῆμιν ὀπάσσει
 θηλυτέρῃσι γυναῖξί, καὶ ἥ κ' εὐεργὸς ἔρσιν."

Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,
 ἵστατό εἰν' Αἰῶας δόμοις, ὑπὸ κεύθεσι γαίης·

Οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ ἐκ πόλιος κατέβαν, τάχα δ' ἀγρὸν ἵκοντο
 καλὸν Λαέρταο τετυγμένον, ὃν ῥά ποτ' αὐτὸς 203
 Λαέρτης κτεάτισσεν, ἐπεὶ μῖλα πόλλ' ἐμόγησεν.
 ἐνθα οἱ οἶκος ἔην, περὶ δὲ κλίσιον θέε πάντη,
 ἐν τῷ σιτέσκοντο καὶ ἴξανον ἠδὲ λαυον.
 δμῶες ἀναγκαῖοι, τοῖ οἱ φίλα ἐργάζοντο. 210
 ἐν δὲ γυνὴ Σικελὴ γρηθὺς πέλεν, ἥ ῥα γέροντα
 ἐνδυκίως κομέσσκεν ἐπ' ἰγροῦ, νόσφι πόλλης.
 ἔνθ' Ὀδυσσεὺς δμῶεσσι καὶ νιῇ μῦθον ἔειπεν·

"Τμεῖς μὲν νῦν ἔλθετ' εὐκτίμενον δόμον εἴσω,
 δεῖπνον δ' αἶψα συνὼν ἱερεύσατε ὅς τις ἄριστος· 215
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ πατρὸς πειρήσομαι ἡμετέροιο,

Then the spirit of the son of Atreus answered him: "Happy son of Laertes, Odysseus of many devices, of a truth full of all excellence was the wife thou didst win, so good of understanding was peerless Penelope, daughter of Icarus, in that she was loyally mindful of Odysseus, her wedded husband. Therefore the fame of her virtue shall never perish, but the immortals shall make among men on earth a pleasant song in honour of constant Penelope. Not on this wise did the daughter of Tyndareus devise evil deeds and slay her wedded husband, and hateful shall the song regarding her be among men, and evil repute doth she bring upon all womankind, even upon her that doeth uprightly."

Thus the two spoke to one another, as they stood in the house of Hades beneath the depths of the earth.

But Odysseus and his men, when they had gone down from the city, quickly came to the fair and well-ordered farm of Laertes, which he had won for himself in days past, and much had he toiled therefor.¹ There was his house, and all about it ran the sheds in which ate, and sat, and slept the servants that were bondsmen, that did his pleasure; but within it was an old Sicilian woman, who tended the old man with kindly care there at the farm, far from the city. Then Odysseus spoke to the servants and to his son, saying:

"Do you now go within the well-built house, and straightway slay for dinner the best of the swine; but I will make trial of my father, and

¹ The reference may be to the labour of reclaiming the land, but we may also think of the property as having been given to Laertes as a *γέρας*; in which case the toil of war is meant.

αἱ κέ μ' ἐπιγνώῃ καὶ φρίσσεται ὀφθαλμοῖσιν,
 ἢ κεν ἀγνοῇσι, πολὺν χρόνον ἀμφὶς ἔοντα."
 Ὡς εἰπὼν δμῶεσσιν ἀρήϊα τευχέ' ἔδωκεν.
 οἱ μὲν ἔπειτα δόμονδε θοῶς κίον, αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς 220
 ἄσσον ἱεν πολυκάρπου Ἀλκίης πειρητίζων.
 οὐδ' εὗρεν Δολίον, μέγαν ὄρχατον ἐσκαταβαίνων,
 οὐδέ τινα δμῶων οὐδ' υἱῶν· ἀλλ' ἄρα τοί γε
 αἵμασιās λέξοντες Ἀλκίης ἔμμεναι ἔρκος 225
 ὦχοντ', αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῖσι γέρον ὁδὸν ἡγεμόνευε.
 τὸν δ' οἶον πατέρ' εὗρεν ἔκτιμένη ἐν Ἀλκίῃ,
 λιστρεῖοντα φυτὸν ῥυπόωντα δέ ἑστο χιτῶνα
 ῥαπτὸν ἀεικέλιον, περὶ δὲ κνήμησι βοείας
 κυμηίδας ῥαπτὰς δέδετο, γραπτὺς ἀλσείωνων,
 χειρῶας τ' ἐπὶ χερσὶ βάτων ἔνεκ'· αὐτὰρ ὑπερθεν 230
 αἰγλήην κνήην κεφαλῇ ἔχε, πένθος ἀέξων.
 τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε πολὺντλας διὸς Ὀδυσσεὺς
 γῆραι τειρόμενον, μάγα δὲ φρεσὶ πένθος ἔχοντα,
 στάς ἄρ' ὑπὸ βλωθρὴν δυχνην κατὰ δάκρυον εἶβε.
 μερμήριξε δ' ἔπειτα κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμὸν 235
 κυσσαι καὶ περιφῦναι ἔδν πατέρ', ἡδὲ ἔκοστα
 εἰπεῖν, ὥς ἔλθοι καὶ ἴκοιτ' ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν,
 ἢ πρῶτ' ἐξερέοιτο ἕκαστά τε πειρήσαιο.
 ὦδε δὲ οἱ φρονέοντι δοῖσσαντο κέρδιον εἶναι,
 πρῶτον κερτομίους ἐπέεσσιν πειρηθῆναι. 240
 τὰ φρονέων ἰθὺς κίεν αὐτοῦ διὸς Ὀδυσσεὺς.
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν κατέχων κεφαλὴν φυτὸν ἀμφελάχαινε·
 τὸν δὲ παριστάμενος προσέφωνε φαίδιμος υἱός·
 "ὦ γέρον, οὐκ ἀδαημοιή· σ' ἔχει ἀμφιπολεύειν
 ὄρχατον, ἀλλ' εὐ τοι κομιδὴ ἔχει, οὐδέ τι πύμπαν, 245
 οὐ φυτόν, οὐ συκὴν, οὐκ ἄμπελος, οὐ μὲν ἔλαιον,
 οὐκ δυχνη, οὐ πρασιή τοι ἄνευ κομιδῆς κατὰ κῆπον.

see whether he will recognize me and know me by sight, or whether he will fail to know me, since I have been gone so long a time."

So saying, he gave to the slaves his battle-gear. They thereafter went quickly to the house; but Odysseus drew near to the fruitful vineyard in his quest. Now he did not find Dolius as he went down into the great orchard, nor any of his slaves or of his sons, but as it chanced they had gone to gather stones for the vineyard wall, and the old man was their leader. But he found his father alone in the well-ordered vineyard, digging about a plant; and he was clothed in a foul tunic, patched and wretched, and about his shins he had bound stitched greaves of ox-hide to guard against scratches, and he wore gloves upon his hands because of the thorns, and on his head a goatskin cap; and he nursed his sorrow. Now when the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus saw him, worn with old age and laden with great grief at heart, he stood still beneath a tall pear tree, and shed tears. Then he debated in mind and heart whether to kiss and embrace his father, and tell him all, how he had returned and come to his native land, or whether he should first question him, and prove him in each thing. And, as he pondered, this seemed to him the better course, to prove him first with mocking words. So with this in mind the goodly Odysseus went straight toward him. He verily was holding his head down, digging about a plant, and his glorious son came up to him, and addressed him, saying:

"Old man, no lack of skill hast thou to tend a garden; nay, thy care is good, and there is naught whatsoever, either plant or fig tree, or vine, nay, or olive, or pear, or garden-plot in all the field that

ἄλλο δέ τοι ἔρέω, σὺ δὲ μὴ χόλον ἔνθεο θυμῷ·
 αὐτόν σ' οὐκ ἀγαθὴ κομιδὴ ἔχει, ἀλλ' ἅμα γῆρας
 λυγρὸν ἔχεις αὐχμείς τε κακῶς καὶ ἀεικέα ἔσσαι. 250
 οὐ μὲν ἀεργίης γε ἀναξ' ἔνεκ' οὐ σε κομίζει,
 οὐδέ τί τοι δούλειον ἐπιπρίπει εἰροράσθαι
 εἶδος καὶ μέγεθος· βασιλῇ γὰρ ἀνδρὶ ζοικας.
 τοιοῦτον δὲ ζοικας, ἐπεὶ λούσαιτο φάγοι τε,
 εὐδέμεναι μαλακῶς· ἡ γὰρ δίκη ἐστὶ γερόντων. 255
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἶπε καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατὰλεξον,
 τεῦ δμῶς εἰς ἀνδρῶν; τεῦ δ' ὄρχατον ἀμφιπολεύεις;
 καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐὺ εἰδῶ,
 εἰ ἑτέον γ' Ἰθάκην τήνδ' ἰκόμεθ', ὥς μοι ξείπεν
 οὗτος ἀνὴρ νῦν δὴ ξυμβλήμενος ἐνθάδ' ἰόντι, 260
 οὐ τι μάλ' ἀρτίφρων, ἐπεὶ οὐ τόλμησεν ἕκαστ' αἰ-
 πεῖν ἢ δ' ἐπακοῦσαι ἐμὸν ἔπος, ὥς ἐρέεινον
 ἀμφὶ ξείνῳ ἐμῷ, ἧ που ζῶει τε καὶ ἔστιν
 ἢ ἤδη τέθνηκε καὶ εἰν' Ἀἴδαο δόμοισιν.
 ἐκ γάρ τοι ἔρέω, σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καὶ μὲν ἄκουσον· 265
 ἄνδρα ποτ' ἐξείνισσα φίλῃ ἐνὶ πατρίδι γαίῃ
 ἡμέτερόνδ' ἐλθόντα, καὶ οὐ πω τις βροτὸς ἄλλος
 ξείνων τηλεδαπῶν φιλίων ἐμὸν ἵκετο δῶμο·
 εὐχετο δ' ἐξ' Ἰθάκης γένος ἔμμεναι, αὐτὰρ ἔφασκε
 Λαέρτην Ἀρκεσιυῖδην πατέρ' ἔμμεναι αὐτῷ. 270
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ πρὸς δῶμοτ' ἄγων εὖ ἐξείνισσα,
 ἐνδυκέως φιλέων, πολλῶν κατὰ οἶκον ἐόντων,
 καὶ οἱ δῶρα πόρον ξεινήϊα, οἷα ἐφέκει.
 χρυσοῦ μὲν οἱ δῶκ' εὐεργέος ἑπτὰ τάλαντα,
 δῶκα δὲ δι' κρητῆρα πανάργυρον ἀνθεμόεντα, 275
 δῶδεκα δ' ὑπλοῖδας χλαίνας, τόσσους δὲ τάπητας,

lacks care. But another thing will I tell thee, and do thou not lay up wrath thereat in thy heart: thou thyself enjoyest no good care, but thou bearest woeful old age, and therewith art foul and unkempt, and clad in mean raiment. Surely it is not because of sloth on thy part that thy master cares not for thee, nor dost thou seem in any wise like a slave to look upon either in form or in stature; for thou art like a king, even like one who, when he has bathed and eaten, should sleep soft; for this is the way of old men. But come, tell me this, and declare it truly. Whose slave art thou, and whose orchard dost thou tend? And tell me this also truly, that I may know full well, whether this is indeed Ithaca, to which we are now come, as a man yonder told me, who met me but now on my way hither. In no wise over sound of wit was he, for he deigned not to tell me of each thing, nor to listen to my word, when I questioned him about a friend of mine, whether haply he still lives, or is now dead and in the house of Hades. For I will tell thee, and do thou give heed and hearken. I once entertained in my dear native land a man that came to our house, and never did any man beside of strangers that dwell afar come to my house a more welcome guest. He declared that by lineage he came from Ithaca, and said that his own father was Laertes, son of Arceisus. So I took him to the house and gave him entertainment with kindly welcome of the rich store that was within, and I gave him gifts of friendship, such as are meet. Of well-wrought gold I gave him seven talents, and a mixing-bowl all of silver, embossed with flowers, and twelve cloaks of single fold, and as many coverlets, and as

τόσσα δὲ φάρεα καλά, τόσους δ' ἐπὶ τοῖσι χιτῶνας,
χωρὶς δ' αὖτε γυναῖκας, ἀμύμονα ἔργα ἰδυίας,
τέσσαρας εἰδαλμούς, ὃς ἤθελεν αὐτὸς ἐλίσσθαι."

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα πατὴρ κατὰ δάκρυον εἰβὼν
" Ἐεῖν, ἢ τοι μὲν γαῖαν ἰκάνεις, ἣν ἐρρεΐνεις, 281
ὑβρισταὶ δ' αὐτὴν καὶ ἀτάσθαλοι ἄνδρες ἔχουσιν·
δῶρα δ' ἐτάσια ταῦτα χαρίζεο, μυρὶ ὀπῶζων·
εἰ γὰρ μιν ζῶόν γ' ἐκίχεις Ἰθάκης ἐνὶ δῆμῳ,
τῷ κέν σ' εὐδώροισιν ἀμειψάμενος ἀπέπεμψε 285
καὶ ξενίῃ ἀγαθῇ· ἢ γὰρ θέμις, ὃς τις ὑπάρξῃ.
ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον,
πόστον δὴ ἔτος ἐστίν, ὅτε ξείνισσας ἐκείνων
σὸν ξείνων δύστηνον, ἐμὸν παῖδ', εἴ ποτ' ἦν γε,
δύσμορον; ὃν πού τῃλε φίλων καὶ πατρίδος αἴης 290
ἦέ πού ἐν πόντι φάγον ἰχθύες, ἢ ἐπὶ χέρσου
θηρσὶ καὶ οἰωνοῖσιν ἔλωρ γένετ'. οὐδέ ἐ μήτηρ
κλαῦσε περιστείλασα πατὴρ θ', οἳ μιν τεκόμεσθα·
οὐδ' ἄλοχος πολύδωρος, ἐχέφρων Πηνελόπεια,
κῶκυς ἐν λεχέεσσιν ἐὼν πόσιν, ὡς ἐπεφύκει, 295
ὀφθαλμούς καθελούσα· τὸ γὰρ γέρας ἐστὶ θανόντων.
καὶ μοι τοῦτ' ἀγόρευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἐγὼ εἰδῶ·
τίς πόθεν εἰς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις ἡδὲ τοκῆς;
ποῦ δὲ νηὺς ἔστηκε θοή, ἢ σ' ἤγαγε δεῦρο
ἀντιθέους θ' ἐτάρους; ἢ ἔμπορος εἰληλόνθας 300
νηὸς ἐπ' ἀλλοτρίῃς, οἳ δ' ἐκβήσαντες ἐβησαν;"

many fair mantles, and as many tunics besides, and furthermore women, skilled in goodly handiwork, four comely women, whom he himself was minded to choose."

Then his father answered him, weeping: "Stranger, verily thou art come to the country of which thou dost ask, but wanton and reckless men now possess it. And all in vain didst thou bestow those gifts, the countless gifts thou gavest. For if thou hadst found him yet alive in the land of Ithaca, then would he have sent thee on thy way with ample requital of gifts and good entertainment; for that is the due of him who begins the kindness. But come, tell me this, and declare it truly. How many years have passed since thou didst entertain that guest, that hapless guest, my son—as sure as ever such a man there was—my ill-starred son, whom far from his friends and his native land haply the fishes have devoured in the deep, or on the shore he has become the spoil of beasts and birds? Nor did his mother deck him for burial and weep over him, nor his father, we who gave him birth, no, nor did his wife, wooed with many gifts,¹ constant Penelope, bewail her own husband upon the bier, as was meet, when she had closed his eyes in death; though that is the due of the dead. And tell me this also truly, that I may know full well. Who art thou among men, and from whence? Where is thy city, and where thy parents? Where is the swift ship moored that brought thee hither with thy godlike comrades? Or didst thou come as a passenger on another's ship, and did they depart when they had set thee on shore?"

¹ Possibly "richly-dowered." Others render simply "bountiful." *τελέεσθαι* occurs only in this phrase.

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι πάντα μάλ' ὑτρεκέως καταλέξω.
 εἰμὶ μὲν ἐξ Ἀλύβαντος, ὅθι κλυτὰ δῶματα ναῖω,
 υἱὸς Ἀφείδαντος Πολυπημονίδαο ἀνακτος· 303
 αὐτὰρ ἐμοί γ' ὄνομ' ἐστὶν Ἐπήριτος· ἀλλὰ με δαίμων
 πλάγξ' ἀπὸ Σικανίης δεῦρ' ἐλθέμεν οὐκ ἐθέλοντα·
 νηὺς δέ μοι ἦδ' ἔστηκεν ἐπ' ἀγροῦ νόσφι πόλης.
 αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσῆϊ τόδε δὴ πέμπτον ἔτος ἐστίν,
 ἐξ οὗ κεῖθεν ἔβη καὶ ἐμῆς ἀπελήλυθε πάτρης, 310
 δῦσμορος· ἥ τέ οἱ ἐσθλοὶ ἔσαν ὄρνιθες ἰόντι,
 δεξιόι, οἷς χαίρων μὲν ἐγὼν ἀπέπεμπον ἐκείνον,
 χαῖρε δὲ κείνος ἰὼν· θυμὸς δ' ἔτι νῶϊν ἐώλπει
 μίξεσθαι ξενίῃ ἢ δ' ἀγλαὰ δῶρα διδώσειν."

Ὡς φάτο, τὸν δ' ἄχεος νεφέλη ἐκάλυψε μέλαινα· 315
 ἀμφοτέρησιν δὲ χερσὶν ἰλὼν κόνιν αἰθαλόεσσαν
 χεύατο κακῇ κεφαλῇς πολιῇ, ἀδινὰ στεναχίζων.
 τοῦ δ' ὠρίνετο θυμὸς, ἀνὰ ῥίνας δὲ οἱ ἦδη
 δριμὺν μένος προὔτυψε φίλον πατέρ' εἰσορόωντι.
 κύσσε δὲ μιν περιφύς ἐπιάλμενος, ἠδὲ προσηύδα· 320

"Κείνος μὲν τοι ὅδ' αὐτὸς ἐγὼ, πᾶτερ, δν σὺ
 μεταλλᾷς,
 ἦλυθον εἰκοστῇ ἔτει ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν,
 ἰλλ' ἴσχεο κλαυθμοῖο γόοιό τε δακρυόεντος.

¹ The proper names in this passage are all fictitious, and all significant: Alybas is perhaps meant to suggest ἀλδρα, "wanderer," or ἄλως, "rave," and has reference to the wanderings of Odysseus; Aphelidas means "miserable"; Polytrepon, if connected, as seems probable, with πάσας, means "rich in possessions"; and Eperitus, suggesting εἶρε,

Then Odysseus of many⁶ wiles answered him, and said: "Then verily will I frankly tell thee all. I come from Alysia,¹ where I have a glorious house, and I am the son of Apheidas, son of lord Polypemon, and my own name is Eperitus. But a god drove me wandering from Sicania to come hither against my will and my ship lies yonder off the tilled land away from the city. But as for Odysseus, it is now the fifth year since he went thence, and departed from my country. Hapless man! Yet he had birds of good omen, when he set out, birds upon the right. So I was glad of them, as I sent him on his way, and he went gladly forth, and our hearts hoped that we should yet meet as host and guest and give one another glorious gifts."

So he spoke, and a dark cloud of grief enwrapped Laertes, and with both his hands he took the dark dust and strewed it over his grey head with ceaseless groaning. Then the heart of Odysseus was stirred, and up through his nostrils² shot a keen pang, as he beheld his dear father. And he sprang toward him, and clasped him in his arms, and kissed him, saying:

"Lo, father, I here before thee, my very self, am that man of whom thou dost ask; I am come in the twentieth year to my native land. But cease from

"*strife*," seems clearly to refer to the meaning of the name Odysseus, "man of wrath" (cf. xix. 407-9, and the note on i. 62).

² It is commonly assumed that the reference is to the physical feeling immediately preceding a burst of tears, but I am inclined rather to take the phrase as indicative of passion in a more general sense. The dilated nostrils of an angry horse or bull may have given rise to such usage: see the imagery frequent in the Old Testament, and cf. Theophrastus i. 18 and Herodas vi. 37 f.

ἐκ γὰρ τοι ἔρῳ· μάλα δὲ χροὴ σπενδόμεν ἔμπης·
 μνηστῆρας κατέπεφνον ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισι, 325
 λῶβην τινύμενος θυμαλγέα καὶ κακὰ ἔργα."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Λαέρτης ἀπαμείβετο φώνησέν τε
 "Εἰ μὲν δὴ Ὀδυσσεύς γε ἐμὸς παῖς ἐνθάδ' ἰκάνεις,
 σῆμά τί μοι νῦν εἰπὲ ἀριφραδὲς, ὅφρα πεποίθω."

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 "Οὐλὴν μὲν πρῶτον τήνδε φράσαι ὀφθαλμοῖσι, 331
 τὴν ἐν Παρνησῷ μ' ἔλασεν σὺς λευκῷ ὀδόντι
 οἰχόμενον· σὺ δέ με προΐεις καὶ πότνια μήτηρ
 ἐς πατέρ' Αὐτόλυκον μητρὸς φίλον, ὅφρ' ἂν ἐλοίμην
 δῶρα, τὰ δεῦρο μολῶν μοι ὑπέσχετο καὶ κατένευσεν.
 εἰ δ' ἄγε τοι καὶ δένδρε' εὐκτιμένην κατ' ἄλωήν· 336
 εἵπω, ἃ μοί ποτ' ἔδωκας, ἐγὼ δ' ἤτεόν σε ἕκαστα
 παιδνὸς ἐών, κατὰ κῆπον ἐπιστόμενος· διὰ δ' αὐτῶν
 ἱκνεύμεσθα, σὺ δ' ὠνόμασας καὶ ἔειπες ἕκαστα.
 ὄγχνας μοι δῶκας τρισκαίδεκα καὶ δέκα μηλέας, 340
 συκέας τεσσαράκοντ'· ὄρχους δέ μοι ὧδ' ὠνόμηνας
 δῶσειν πενήκοντα, διατρύγιος δὲ ἕκαστος
 ἦην—ἐνθα δ' ἀνὰ σταφυλαὶ παντοῖαι ἔασιν—
 ὁππότε δὴ Διὸς ὥραι ἐπιβρίσειαν ὑπερθεν."

Ὡς φάτο, τοῦ δ' αὐτοῦ λῦτο γούνατα καὶ φίλον
 ἦτορ, 345
 σήματ' ἀναγνόντος τά οἱ ἔμπεδα πέφραδ' Ὀδυσσεύς.
 ἀμφὶ δὲ παιδὶ φίλῳ βάλε πῆχες· τὸν δὲ ποτὶ οἶ
 εἶλεν ἀποψύχοντα πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς.

grief and tearful lamenting, for I will tell thee all, though great is the need of haste. The wooers have I slain in our halls, and have taken vengeance on their grievous insolence and their evil deeds."

Then Laertes answered him again, and said: "If it is indeed as Odysseus, my son, that thou art come hither, tell me now some clear sign, that I may be sure."

And Odysseus of many wiles answered him and said: "This scar first do thou mark with thine eyes, the scar of the wound which a boar dealt me with his white tusk on Parnassus, when I had gone thither. It was thou that didst send me forth, thou and my honoured mother, to Autolycus, my mother's father, that I might get the gifts which, when he came hither, he promised and agreed to give me. And come, I will tell thee also the trees in the well-ordered garden which once thou gavest me, and I, who was but a child, was following thee through the garden, and asking thee for this and that. It was through these very trees that we passed, and thou didst name them, and tell me of each one. Pear-trees thirteen thou gavest me, and ten apple-trees, and forty fig-trees. And rows of vines too didst thou promise to give me, even as I say, fifty of them, which ripened severally at different times—and upon them are clusters of all sorts—whensoever the seasons of Zeus weighed them down from above."¹

So he spoke, and his father's knees were loosened where he stood, and his heart melted, as he knew the sure tokens which Odysseus told him. About his dear son he flung both his arms, and the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus caught him unto him

¹ i.e. made them heavy with fruitage.

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἄμπνυτο καὶ ἐς φρένα θυμὸς ἀγέρθη,
 ἔξαυτις μύθοισιν ἀμειβόμενος προσέειπε 350

“Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἦ ῥα ἐγ' ἔστε θεοὶ κατὰ μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,
 εἰ ἐτεδὸν μνηστῆρας ἀτάσθαλον ὕβριν ἔτισαν.
 νῦν δ' αἰνῶς δείδοικα κατὰ φρένα μὴ τάχα πάντες
 ἐνθάδ' ἐπὶ λθωσιν Ἰθακήσιοι, ἀγγελίας δὲ
 πάντα ἐποτρύνωσι Κεφαλλήνων πολέεσσι.” 355

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
 “Θύρσει, μὴ τοι ταῦτα μετὰ φρεσὶ σῆσι μελόντων.
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν προτὶ οἶκον, ὅς τ' ὀρχάτου ἐγγύθι κείται·
 ἐνθα δὲ Τηλέμαχον καὶ βουκόλον ἠδὲ συβώτην
 προὔπεμψ', ὥς ἂν δεῖπνον ἐφοπλίσσωσι τάχιστα.” 360

ὣς ἄρα φωνήσαντε βάτην πρὸς δώματα καλά,
 οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἴκοντο δόμους εὐ ναιετάοντας,
 εὗρον Τηλέμαχον καὶ βουκόλον ἠδὲ συβώτην
 ταμνομένους κρέα πολλὰ κερῶντάς τ' αἶθρα οἶνον.

Τόφρα δὲ Λαέρτην μεγαλήτορα φ' ἐνὶ οἴκῳ 365
 ἀμφίπολος Σικελὴ λούσεν καὶ χρίσεν ἐλαίῳ,
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρα χλαῖναν καλὴν βάλεν· αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη
 ἄγχι παρισταμένη μέλε' ἤλδανε ποιμένι λαῶν,
 μείζονα δ' ἢ πυρός καὶ πάσσονα θῆκεν ἰδέσθαι.
 ἐκ δ' ἀσαμίνθου βῆ· θαύμαζε δέ μιν φίλος υἱός, 370
 ὥς ἔεν ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖς ἐναλίγκιον ἄντην·
 καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“ὦ πάτερ, ἦ μάλα τίς σε θεῶν αἰειγενετῶν
 εἰδός τε μέγεθός τε ἀμείνονα θῆκεν ἰδέσθαι.”

Τὸν δ' αὖ Λαέρτης πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ηὔδα· 375

fainting. But when he revived, and his spirit returned again into his breast, once more he made answer, and spoke, saying :

" Father Zeus, verily ye gods yet hold sway on high Olympus, if indeed the wooers have paid the price of their wanton insolence. But now I have wondrous dread at heart, lest straightway all the men of Ithaca come hither against us, and send messengers everywhere to the cities of the Cephallenians."

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said : " Be of good cheer, and let not these things distress thy heart. But let us go to the house, which lies near the orchard, for thither I sent forward Telemachus and the neatherd and the swineherd, that with all speed they might prepare our meal."

So spoke the two, and went their way to the goodly house. And when they had come to the stately house, they found Telemachus, and the neatherd, and the swineherd carving flesh in abundance, and mixing the flaming wine.

Meanwhile the Sicilian handmaid bathed great-hearted Laertes in his house, and anointed him with oil, and about him cast a fair cloak. But Athene drew near, and made greater the limbs of the shepherd of the people, and made him taller than before and mightier to behold. Then he came forth from the bath, and his dear son marvelled at him, seeing him in presence like unto the immortal gods. And he spoke, and addressed him with winged words :

" Father, surely some one of the gods that are forever has made thee goodlier to behold in comeliness and in stature."

Then wise Laertes answered him : " I would, O

“ Αἰ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἀπολλων,
 οἷος Νήρικον εἶλον, ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,
 ἀκτὴν ἠπείροιο, Κεφαλλήνεσσιν ἀνάσσων,
 τοῖος ἐὼν τοι χθιζὸς ἐν ἡμετέροισι δόμοισιν,
 τεύχε' ἔχων ὤμοισιν, ἐφιστάμεναι καὶ ἀμύνειν 390
 ἄνδρος μνήστῆρας· τῷ κε σφέων γούνατ' ἔλυσα
 πολλῶν ἐν μεγάροισι, σὺ δὲ φρένας ἔνδον ἐγήθεις.”

“Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον.
 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν παύσαντο πόνου τετύκοντό τε δαῖτα,
 ἐξείης ἔζοντο κατὰ κλισμούς τε θρόνους τε 395
 ἐνθ' οἱ μὲν δαίπνῃ ἐπεχείρουν, ἀγχίμολον δὲ
 ἦλθ' ὁ γέρων Δολίος, σὺν δ' υἱεῖς τοῖο γέροντος,
 ἐξ ἔργων μογρόντες, ἐπεὶ προμολούσα κάλεσσαν
 μήτηρ γρηῦν Σικελή, ἣ σφεας τρέφε καὶ ῥα γέροντα 399
 ἐνδυκέως κομέσκεν, ἐπεὶ κατὰ γῆρας ἔμαρψεν.
 οἱ δ' ὥς οὖν Ὀδυσῆα ἴδον φράσσαντό τε θυμῷ,
 ἔσταν ἐνὶ μεγάροισι τεθηπότες· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 μελιχίους ἐπέεσσι καθαπτόμενος προσέειπεν

“ὦ γέρον, ἴζ' ἐπὶ δεῖπνον, ἀπεκλελάθισθε δὲ
 θάμβεις·

δηρὸν γάρ σίτῃ ἐπιχειρήσειν μεμαῶτες 399
 μίμνομεν ἐν μεγάροις, ὑμέας ποτιδέγμενοι αἰεῖ.”

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, Δολίος δ' ἰθὺς κίε χεῖρε πετάσσας
 ἀμφοτέρας, Ὀδυσσεὺς δὲ λαβὼν κύσε χεῖρ' ἐπὶ καρπῷ,
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“ὦ φίλ', ἐπεὶ νόστησας ἐλδόμενοισι μάλ' ἡμῖν 400
 οὐδ' ἐτ' ὀιομένοισι, θεοὶ δέ σ' ἀνήγαγον αὐτοί,

father Zeus, and Athene, and Apollo, that in such strength as when I took Nerieus, the well built citadel on the shore of the mainland, when I was lord of the Cephallenians, even in such strength I had stood by thy side yesterday in our house with my armour about my shoulders, and had beaten back the wooers. So should I have loosened the knees of many of them in the halls, and thy heart would have been made glad within thee."

So they spoke to one another. But when the others had ceased from their labour, and had made ready the meal, they sat down in order on the chairs and high seats. Then they were about to set hands to their food, when the old man Dolius drew near, and with him the old man's sons, wearied from their work in the fields, for their mother, the old Sicilian woman, had gone forth and called them, she who saw to their food, and tended the old man with kindly care, now that old age had laid hold of him. And they, when they saw Odysseus, and marked him in their minds, stood in the halls lost in wonder. But Odysseus addressed them with gentle words, and said:

"Old man, sit down to dinner, and do ye wholly forget your wonder, for long have we waited in the halls, though eager to set hands to the food, ever expecting your coming."

So he spoke, and Dolius ran straight toward him with both hands outstretched, and he clasped the hand of Odysseus and kissed it on the wrist, and spoke, and addressed him with winged words:

"Dear master, since thou hast come back to us, who sorely longed for thee, but had no more thought to see thee, and the gods themselves have brought

οὐλέ τε καὶ μάλα χαῖρε, θεοὶ δὲ τοι δλβια δοῖεν.
καί μοι τοῦτ' ἀγορευσον ἐτήτυμον, ὅφρ' ἰδῷ εἰδῶ,
ἢ ἤδη σάφα οἶδε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια
νοστήσαντά σε δεῦρ', ἢ ἄγγελον ὀτρύνωμεν." 403

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·
"ὦ γέρον, ἤδη οἶδε· τί σε χρή ταῦτα πένεσθαι;"

Ὡς φάθ', ὁ δ' αὖτις ἄρ' ἔζεν ἰυξέστον ἐπὶ δῖφρου.
ὥς δ' αὖτως παῖδες Δολίου κλυτὸν ἄμφ' Ὀδυσῆα
δεικανόωντ' ἐπέεσσι καὶ ἐν χεῖρεσσι φύοντο, 410
ἐξείης δ' ἔζοντο παρὰ Δολίον, πατέρα σφόν.

Ὡς οἱ μὲν περὶ δεῖπνον ἐνὶ μεγάροισι πένοντο·
Ὅσσα δ' ἄρ' ἄγγελος ὤκα κατὰ πτόλιν ᾤχετο πάντη,
μνηστήρων στυγερὸν θάνατον καὶ κῆρ' ἐνέπουσα.
οἱ δ' ἄρ' ὁμῶς αἶοντες ἰφοίτων ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος 415
μυχμῶ τε στοναχῇ τε δόμων προπάροιθ' Ὀδυσῆος,
ἐκ δὲ νέκυς οἴκων φόρεον καὶ θάπτον ἕκαστοι,
τοὺς δ' ἐξ ἀλλήων πολίων οἰκόνδε ἕκαστον
πέμπον ἄγειν ἀλιεῦσι θοῆς ἐπὶ νηυσὶ τιθέντες·
αὐτοὶ δ' εἰς ἀγορὴν κίον ἀθρόοι, αἰχνύμενοι κῆρ. 420
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ β' ἤγερθεν ὀμμηγέρες τ' ἐγένοντο,
τοῖσιν δ' Εὐπείθης ἀνὶ θ' ἴστατο καὶ μετέειπε·
παιδὸς γὰρ οἱ ἄλαστον ἐνὶ φρεσὶ πένθος ἔκειτο,
Ἄντινῶον, τὸν πρῶτον ἐνήρατό διος Ὀδυσσεύς·
τοῦ ὃ γε δάκρυ χέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν 425

"ὦ φίλοι, ἢ μέγα ἔργον ἀνὴρ ὅδ' ἐμήσατ' Ἀχαιοὺς·
τοὺς μὲν σὺν νήεσσιν ἄγων πολέας τε καὶ ἰσθλοὺς
ᾤλεσε μὲν νῆας γλαφυράς, ἀπὸ δ' ᾤλεσε λαοὺς·

thee—hail to thee, and all welcome, and may the gods grant thee happiness. And tell me this also truly, that I may know full well. Does wise Penelope yet know surely that thou hast come back hither, or shall we send her a messenger?"

Then Odysseus of many wiles answered him, and said: "Old man, she knows already; why shouldst thou be busied with this?"

So he spoke, and the other sat down again on the polished chair. And even in like manner the sons of Dolius gathered around glorious Odysseus and greeted him in speech, and clasped his hands. Then they sat down in order beside Dolius, their father.

So they were busied with their meal in the halls; but meanwhile Rumour, the messenger, went swiftly throughout all the city, telling of the terrible death and fate of the wooers. And the people heard it all at once, and gathered from every side with moanings and wailings before the palace of Odysseus. Forth from the halls they brought each his dead, and buried them; and those from other cities they sent each to his own home, placing them on swift ships for seamen to bear them, but they themselves went together to the place of assembly, sad at heart. Now when they were assembled and met together Eupheithes arose and spoke among them, for comfortless grief for his son lay heavy on his heart, even for Antinous, the first man whom goodly Odysseus had slain. Weeping for him he addressed their assembly and said:

"Friends, a monstrous deed has this man of a truth devised against the Achaeans. Some he led forth in his ships, many men and goodly, and he has lost his hollow ships and utterly lost his men; and

τοὺς δ' ἔλθων ἔκτεινε Κεφαλλήνων δ'χ' ἀρίστους,
 ἀλλ' ἄγετε, πρὶν τοῦτον ἢ ἐς Πύλον ὤκα ἰκέσθαι 430
 ἢ καὶ ἐς Ἥλιδα διὰν, ὅθι κρατεύουσιν Ἑπιοῖ,
 ἴομεν ἢ καὶ ἔπειτα κατηφῆες ἐσσομένεσθ' αἰεὶ·
 λῶβη γὰρ τάδε γ' ἐστὶ καὶ ἐσσομένοισι πυθέσθαι,
 εἰ δὴ μὴ παίδων τε κασιγνήτων τε φονῆας
 τισόμεθ'. οὐκ ἂν ἐμοί γε μετὰ φρεσὶν ἡδὺ γένοιτο 435
 ζῶμεν, ἀλλὰ τάχιστα θανὼν φθιμένοισι μετείην.
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν, μὴ φθίωσι περαιωθέντες ἐκείνοι."

Ὡς φάτο δάκρυ χέων, οἶκος δ' ἔλε πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς.
 ἀγχιμόλον δέ σφ' ἦλθε Μῆδων καὶ θεῖος ἀοιδὸς
 ἐκ μεγάρων Ὀδυσῆος, ἐπεὶ σφείας ἔπνος ἀνῆκεν, 440
 ἔσταν δ' ἐν μέσσοισι· τάφος δ' ἔχεν ἄνδρα ἔκαστον.
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε Μῆδων πεπνυμένα εἰδώς·

"Κέκλυτε δὴ νῦν μεν, Ἰθακήσιοι· οὐ γὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς
 ἀθανάτων ἀέκητι θεῶν τάδ' ἐμήσατο ἔργα·
 αὐτὸς ἐγὼν εἶδον θεὸν ἄμβροτον, ὃς ῥ' Ὀδυσσῆι 445
 ἐγγύθεν ἐστήκει καὶ Μέντορι πάντα ἐφίκει.
 ἀθάνατος δὲ θείος τότε μὲν προπάρειθ' Ὀδυσῆος
 φαίνετο θαρσύνων, τότε δὲ μνηστῆρας ὀρίνων
 θύνε κατὰ μέγαρον· τοὶ δ' ἀγχιστῖνοι ἐπιπτον."

Ὡς φάτο, τοὺς δ' ἄρα πάντας ὑπὸ χλωρὸν δέος ἦρει.
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε γέρων ἦρωες Ἀλιθέρσης 451
 Μαστορίδης· ὁ γὰρ οἷος δ'ρα πρόσσω καὶ ὀπίσσω·
 ὃ σφιν εὐφρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπε·

"Κέκλυτε δὴ νῦν μεν, Ἰθακήσιοι, ὅττι κεν εἴπω·
 ὑμετέρη κακότητι, φίλοι, τάδε ἔργα γένοντο· 455

others again has he slain on his return, and these by far the best of the Cephallenians. Nay then, come, before the fellow goes swiftly to Pylos, or to goodly Elis, where the Epeans hold sway, let us go forth; verily even in days to come shall we be disgraced forever. For a shame is this even for men that are yet to be to hear of, if we shall not take vengeance on the slayers of our sons and our brothers. To me surely life would then no more be sweet; rather would I die at once and be among the dead. Nay, let us forth, lest they be too quick for us, and cross over the sea."

So he spoke, weeping, and pity laid hold of all the Achæans. Then near them came Medon and the divine minstrel from the halls of Odysseus, for sleep had released them; and they took their stand in the midst, and wonder seized every man. Then Medon, wise of heart, spoke among them:

"Hearken now to me, men of Ithaca, for verily not without the will of the immortal gods has Odysseus devised these deeds. Nay, I myself saw an immortal god, who stood close beside Odysseus, and seemed in all things like unto Mentor. Yet as an immortal god now in front of Odysseus would he appear, heartening him, and now again would rage through the hall, scaring the wooers; and they fell thick and fast."

So he spoke, and thereat pale fear seized them all. Then among them spoke the old lord Halitherses, son of Mastor, for he alone saw before and after: he with good intent addressed their assembly, and said:

"Hearken now to me, men of Ithaca, to the word that I shall say. Through your own cowardice, friends, have these deeds been brought to pass,

οὐ γὰρ ἐμοὶ πείθεσθ', οὐ Μέντορι ποιμένι λαῶν,
 ὑμετέρους παῖδας καταπαυέμεν ἀφροσυνάων,
 οἱ μέγα ἔργον ἔρεξαν ἀτασθαλίῃσι κακῇσι,
 κτήματα κείροντες καὶ ἀτιμάζοντες ἄκοιτιν
 ἀνδρὸς ἀριστῆος· τὸν δ' οὐκέτι φάντο νέεσθαι. 460
 καὶ νῦν ὧδε γένοιτο. πίθεσθέ μοι ὡς ἀγορεύω·
 μὴ ἴομεν, μὴ ποῦ τις ἐπίσπαστον κακὸν εὖρη."

Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρ' ἀνιῆξαν μεγάλῃ ἀλαλητῇ
 ἡμίσεων πλείους· τοὶ δ' ἄθροοι αὐτόθι μένον·
 οὐ γὰρ σφῖν ἄδε μῦθος ἐνὶ φρεσίν, ἀλλ' Εὐπείθει 465
 πείθοντ'· αἶψα δ' ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ τεύχεα ἑσσεύοντο.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἔσσαντο περὶ χροῖ νώροπα χαλκόν,
 ἄθροοι ἠγερέθοντο πρὸ ἀστεος εὐρυχόροιο.

τοῖσιν δ' Εὐπείθης ἠγήσατο νηπιήσιν·
 φῆ δ' ὃ γε τίσεσθαι παιδὸς φόνον, οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔμελλεν 470
 ἄψ' ἀπονοστήσειν, ἀλλ' αὐτοῦ πότμον ἐφέψειν.

Αὐτὰρ Ἀθηναίῃ Ζῆνα Κρονίωνα προσηύδα·
 "ὦ πάτερ ἡμέτερε, Κρονίδη, ὕπατε κρείοντων,
 εἰπέ μοι εἰρομένη, τί νῦν τοι νόος ἐνδοθι κεύθει;
 ἢ προτέρω πόλεμόν τε κακὸν καὶ φύλοπιν αἰνῆν 475
 τεύξεις, ἢ φιλότητα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισι τίθησθα;"

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·
 "Τέκνον ἐμόν, τί με ταῦτα διείρει; ἡδὲ μεταλλάξ;
 οὐ γὰρ δὴ τοῦτον μὲν ἐβούλευσας νόον αὐτῇ,
 ὡς ἢ τοι κείνους Ὀδυσσεὺς ἀποτίσεται ἐλθῶν; 480
 ἔρξον ὅπως ἐθέλεις· ἐρέω τέ τοι ὡς ἐπέοικεν.
 ἐπὶ δὴ μνηστῆρος ἐτίσατο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,

for you would not obey me, nor Mentor, shepherd of the people, to make your sons cease from their folly. They wrought a monstrous deed in their blind and wanton wickedness, wasting the wealth and dishonouring the wife of a prince, who, they said, would never more return. Now then be it thus; and do you hearken to me, as I bid. Let us not go forth, lest haply many a one shall find a bane which he has brought upon himself."

So he spoke, but they sprang up with loud cries, more than half of them, but the rest remained together in their seats; for his speech was not to their mind, but they hearkened to Eupheithes, and quickly thereafter they rushed for their arms. Then when they had clothed their bodies in gleaming bronze, they gathered together in front of the spacious city. And Eupheithes led them in his folly, for he thought to avenge the slaying of his son; yet he was himself never more to come back, but was there to meet his doom.

But Athene spoke to Zeus, son of Cronos, saying: "Father of us all, thou son of Cronos, high above all lords, tell to me that ask thee what purpose thy mind now hides within thee. Wilt thou yet further bring to pass evil war and the dread din of battle, or wilt thou establish friendship betwixt the twain?"

Then Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, answered her, and said: "My child, why dost thou ask and question me of this? Didst thou not thyself devise this plan, that verily Odysseus should take vengeance on these men at his coming? Do as thou wilt, but I will tell thee what is fitting. Now that goodly Odysseus has taken vengeance on the wooers, let them swear

δρακία πιστὰ ταμόντες ὁ μὲν βασιλευέτω αἰεὶ,
 ἡμεῖς δ' αὖ παίδων τε κρασυγνήτων τε φόνοιο¹
 ἔκλῃσιν θέωμεν· τοὶ δ' ἀλλήλους φιλεόντων 485
 ὥς τὸ πάρος, πλούτος δὲ καὶ εἰρήνη ἅλις ἔστω."

"Ὡς εἰπὼν ὤτρυνε πάρος μεμαυῖαν Ἀθήνην,
 βῆ δὲ κατ' Οὐλύμποιο καρῆνων ὑΐξασα.

Οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν σίτοιο μελίφρονος ἔξ ἔρον ἔντο,
 τοῖς δ' ἄρα μύθων ἤρχε πολὺτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς· 490
 "Ἐξελθὼν τις Ἴδοι μὴ δὴ σχεδὸν ὥσι κιόντες."

"Ὡς ἔφατ'· ἐκ δ' υἷος Δολίου κλέν, ὥς ἐκέλευεν·
 στή δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰών, τοὺς δὲ σχεδὸν εἰσίδε πάντας·
 αἶψα δ' Ὀδυσσῆα ἔπεια πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
 "Ὅτ'δε δὴ ἐγγὺς ἔασ'· ἀλλ' ὅπλιζώμεθα θᾶσσον." 495

"Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ὤρνυντο καὶ ἐν τεύχεσσι δύνοντο,
 τέσσαρες ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆ', ἔξ δ' υἱεῖς οἱ Δολίοιο·
 ἐν δ' ἄρα Λαέρτης Δολίος τ' ἐς τεύχε' ἔδυνον,
 καὶ πολλοὶ περ ἰόντες, ἀναγκαῖοι πολεμισταί.
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἔσσαντο περὶ χροῦ κώροπα χαλεόν, 500
 ὦϊξάν ῥα θύρας, ἐκ δ' ἦιον, ἤρχε δ' Ὀδυσσεύς.

Τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' ἀγχιμόλον θυγάτηρ Διὸς ἦλθεν Ἀθήνη
 Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἡμὲν ἔεμας ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδήν.
 τὴν μὲν ἰδὼν γήθησε πολὺτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·
 αἶψα δὲ Τηλέμαχον προσεφώσεν θυ φῖλον υἷον· 505

"Τηλέμαχ', ἰδὼν μὲν τόδε γ' εἶσαι αὐτὸς ἐπελθὼν,
 ἀνδρῶν μαρναμένων ἵνα τε κρίνονται ἄριστοι,

¹ φόνοιο: φονῆας.

a solemn oath, and let him be king all his days, and let us on our part bring about a forgetting of the slaying of their sons and brothers; and let them love one another as before, and let wealth and peace abound."

So saying, he roused Athene, who was already eager, and she went darting down from the heights of Olympus.

But when they had put from them the desire of honey-hearted food, the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus was the first to speak among his company, saying: "Let one go forth and see whether they be not now drawing near."

So he spoke, and a son of Dolius went forth, as he bade; he went and stood upon the threshold, and saw them all close at hand, and straightway he spoke to Odysseus winged words: "Here they are close at hand. Quick, let us arm."

So he spoke, and they rose up and arrayed themselves in armour: Odysseus and his men were four, and six the sons of Dolius, and among them Laertes and Dolius donned their armour, grey-headed though they were, warriors perforce. But when they had clothed their bodies in gleaming bronze, they opened the doors and went forth, and Odysseus led them.

Then Athene, daughter of Zeus, drew near them in the likeness of Mentor both in form and in voice, and the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus was glad at sight of her, and straightway spoke to Telemachus, his dear son:

"Telemachus, now shalt thou learn this—having thyself come to the place of battle, where the best warriors are put to the trial—to bring no disgrace

μή τι κατασχύνειν πατέρων γένος, οἳ τὸ πάρος περ
 ἄλκῃ τ' ἡγορέῃ τε κεκάσμεθα πᾶσαν ἐπ' αἶαν."

Τὸν δ' αὖ Τηλέμαχος πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦλθε· 810
 "Ὅψεαι, αἰ κ' ἰθέλῃσθα, πάτερ φίλε, τῷδ' ἐπὶ θυμῷ
 οὐ τι κατασχύνοντα τεὸν γένος, ὥς ἀγορεύεις."

ὣς φάτο, Λαέρτης δ' ἐχάρη καὶ μῦθον ἔειπε·
 "Τίς νύ μοι ἡμέρῃ ἦδε, θεοὶ φίλοι; ἡ μάλα χαίρω·
 υἱὸς θ' υἱωνός τ' ἀρετῆς πέρι δῆριν ἔχουσιν." 815

Τὸν δὲ παρισταμένη προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 "ὦ Ἀρκεισιάδῃ, πάντων πολὺ φίλταθ' ἐταίρων,
 εὐξάμενος κούρῃ γλαυκῶπιδι καὶ Διὶ πατρί,
 αἶψα μάλ' ἀμπεπαλὼν προῖει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος."

ὣς φάτο, καί ῥ' ἐμπνευσε μένος μέγα Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη·
 εὐξάμενος δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα Διὶς κούρῃ μεγάλῳ, 821
 αἶψα μάλ' ἀμπεπαλὼν προῖει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,
 καὶ βάλεν Εὐπείθεα κόρυθος διὰ χαλκοπαρήου.
 ἡ δ' οὐκ ἔγχος ἔρυτο, διαπρὸ δὲ εἴσατο χαλκός,
 δούπησεν δὲ πεσὼν, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ. 825
 ἐν δ' ἔπεσον προμάχοις Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ φαίδιμος υἱός,
 τύπτον δὲ ξίφεσιν τε καὶ ἔγχεσιν ἀμφιγύοισι.
 καὶ νύ κε διὴ πάντας ὄλεσαν καὶ ἔθηκαν ἀνόστους,
 εἰ μὴ Ἀθηναίῃ, κούρῃ Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,
 ἧσεν φωνῇ, κατὰ δ' ἔσχεθε λαὸν ἅπαντα. 830

"Ἴσχεσθε πτολέμου, Ἴθακήσιοι, ἀργαλέοιο,
 ὥς κεν ἀναιμωτὶ γε διακρινθῆτε τάχιστα."

ὣς φάτ' Ἀθηναίῃ, τοὺς δὲ χλωρὸν δέους εἶλεν·
 τῶν δ' ἄρα δεισάντων ἐκ χειρῶν ἔπτατο τεύχεα,

upon the house of thy fathers, for we have ever excelled in strength and in valour over all the earth."

And wise Telemachus answered him: "Thou shalt see me, if thou wilt, dear father, in my present temper, bringing no disgrace upon thy house, even as thou sayest."

So said he, and Laertes was glad, and spoke, saying: "What a day is this for me, kind gods! Verily right glad am I: my son and my son's son are vying with one another in valour."

Then flashing-eyed Athene came near him and said: "Son of Arceisius, far the dearest of all my friends, make a prayer to the flashing-eyed maiden and to father Zeus, and then straightway raise aloft thy long spear, and hurl it."

So spoke Pallas Athene, and breathed into him great might. Then he prayed to the daughter of great Zeus, and straightway raised aloft his long spear, and hurled it, and smote Eupelthes through the helmet with cheek-piece of bronze. This stayed not the spear, but the bronze passed through, and he fell with a thud, and his armour clanged about him. Then on the foremost fighters fell Odysseus and his glorious son, and thrust at them with swords and double-pointed spears. And now would they have slain them all, and cut them off from returning, had not Athene, daughter of Zeus, who bears the ægis, shouted aloud, and checked all the host, saying:

"Refrain, men of Ithaca, from grievous war, that with all speed you may part, and that without bloodshed."

So spoke Athene, and pale fear seized them. Then in their terror the arms flew from their hands and

πάντα δ' ἐπὶ χθονὶ πίπτε, θεῆς ὅπα φωνησάσης· 535
 πρὸς δὲ πόλιν τραπῶντο λιλαιόμενοι βιότοιο.
 σμερδαλίον δ' ἐβόησε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,
 οἴμησεν δὲ ἄλεις ὥς τ' αἰετὸς ὑψιπετής.
 καὶ τότε δὴ Κρονίδης ἀφίει ψολόεντα κεραυνόν,
 καδ' δ' ἔπεσε πρόσθε γλαυκῶπιδος ὀβριμοπάτρης. 540
 δὴ τότε Ὀδυσσεύς προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
 "Διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεύ,
 ἴσχειο, παῦε δὲ νεῖκος ὁμοίου πολέμοιο,
 μή πως τοι Κρονίδης κεχολώσεται εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς."
 "ὦς φάτ' Ἀθηναίη, ὃ δ' ἐπείθετο, χαῖρε δὲ θυμῷ. 545
 ὄρκια δ' αὖ κατόπισθε μετ' ἀμφοτέροισιν ἔθηκεν
 Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη, κούρη Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,
 Μέντορι εἰδομένη ἤμην δέμος ἠδὲ καὶ αὐδήν.

fell one and all to the ground, as the goddess uttered her voice, and they turned toward the city, eager to save their lives. Terribly then shouted the much-enduring, goodly Odysseus, and gathering himself together he swooped upon them like an eagle of lofty flight, and at that moment the son of Cronos cast a flaming thunderbolt, and down it fell before the flashing-eyed daughter of the mighty sire. Then flashing-eyed Athene spoke to Odysseus saying:

"Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many devices, stay thy hand, and make the strife of equal¹ war to cease, lest haply the son of Cronos be wroth with thee, even Zeus, whose voice is borne afar."

So spoke Athene, and he obeyed, and was glad at heart. Then for all time to come a solemn covenant betwixt the twain was made by Pallas Athene, daughter of Zeus, who bears the aegis, in the likeness of Mentor both in form and in voice.

¹ Possibly "baneful"; see the note on *lii.* 236.



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¹ The references given include every occurrence of the name in question unless the contrary is indicated. Under the names Ἀλκίον, Ὀδυσσεύς, Ἠσίοδος, Ἠσίοδος, and Τηλέμαχος will be found references to the chief incidents of the story.

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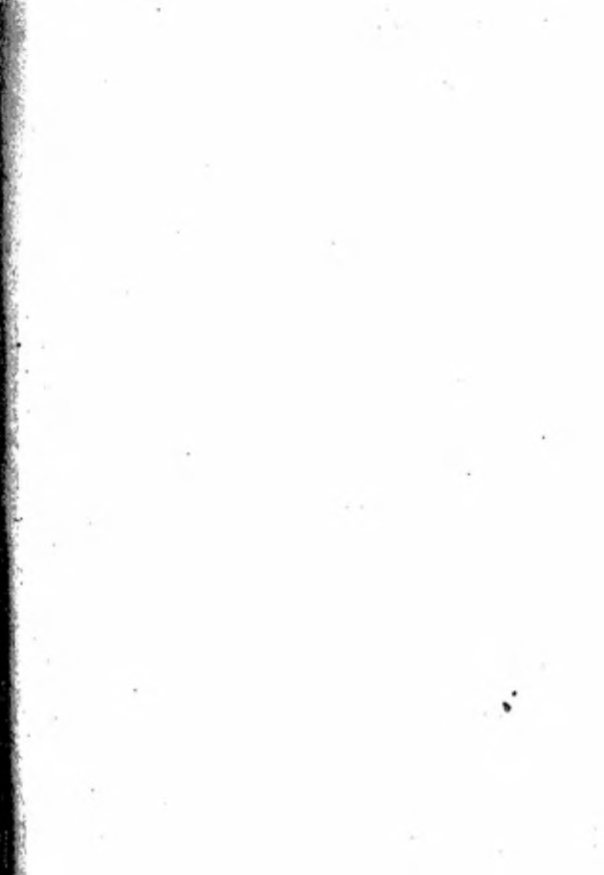
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